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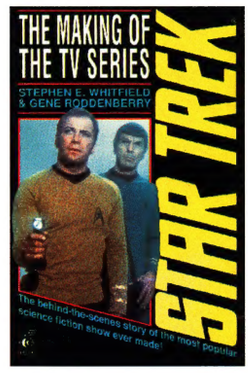
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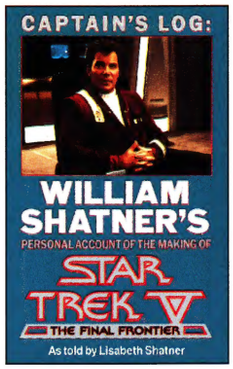

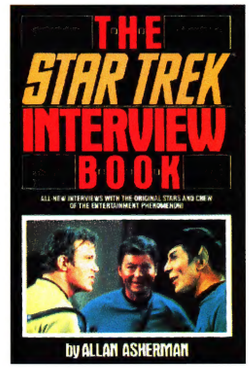

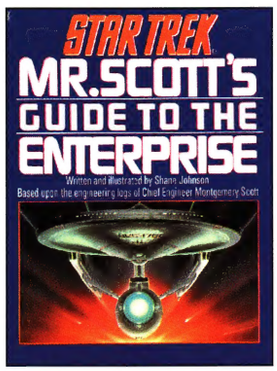
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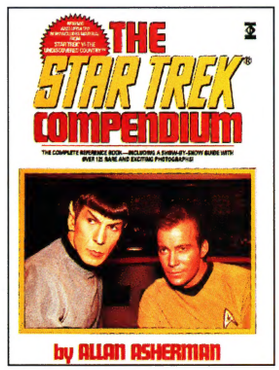

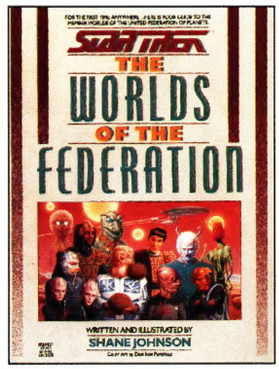

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"Picturesque descriptions will not mend broken circuits, Mr Scott..."

– Spock, *Galileo 7*

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Make It So

"Captain, my brilliant improvisation has just given up the ghost. It couldn't stand the strain."

– *Montgomery Scott*'s attempts to prevent disaster in *The Devil in the Dark* come unstuck

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There may be a lot of 24th Century science in *Star Trek*, but how much of it is accurate science and the rest so much corbomite? As we discovered in creating this issue, many scientists have been very complimentary about the show's scientific content, with much of it having at least some grounding in today's knowledge. More to the point, many of the scientific gadgets of *Star Trek* are now well on their way into everyday use – mobile phones are today's communicators, a space ship is about to put an ion drive to the test and even transporter technology, of sorts, is being researched. We're living in an age of talking computers, voice recognition and our first attempts at holodecks with virtual reality. Scientists are actively discussing the possibility of creating wormholes for travelling to the stars and the creation of anti-matter is already a reality.

Strangely enough – or perhaps not so strangely, given its world-wide appeal – just some of these developments may have been inspired by *Star Trek* itself. Certainly, actor James Doohan has lost count of the number of people who said they became engineers or scientists because of his portrayal of Scotty in the original series.

We can only hope that *Star Trek* will continue to inspire, to encourage personal missions of discovery, for many years to come... ■

John Freeman, Editor

Code Of Honour

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The Best of All Worlds

IN BRIEF...

SHATNER REGRETS KIRK'S END

Interviewed for the Radio Times *prior to the* Generations II *convention at the* Royal Albert Hall *in April, William Shatner expressed surprise at comments made about him by fellow* Star Trek *stars and regretted the death of Kirk in* Star Trek Generations. *"I would not have chosen to kill off the character," he said "I'd have preferred to continue with that wonderful part, and the good money. Maybe I was too old and too expensive. I was very sad."*

The star of Star Trek *also doesn't hold out high hopes for mankind reaching the 24th Century. He feels it would also be best for mankind if we could all climb aboard the* U.S.S. Enterprise *and boldly go somewhere else. "There is impending doom because we have destroyed this natural world," he said. "It's no accident we have viruses like Ebola, HIV and others even more dangerous."*

STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT MOVES TO WARP SPEED

Filming commenced on the second *Star Trek: The Next Generation* film, *Star Trek: First Contact*, on 28 April. A $50 million budget, huge space battles between the *Borg* and Starfleet (including an appearance by the *U.S.S. Defiant*) and an element of time travel are just some of the rumours circulating about the new film; however, Avery Brooks has denied he will be making a guest appearance, as reported last issue.

Executive Producer Rick Berman confirmed that none of the original cast will appear and neither will John de Lancie, Whoopi Goldberg or former *Borg* Jonathan Del Arco, who played Hugh in the television series. As we went to press, it was announced that James Cromwell and Alfre Woodard have joined the cast. Cromwell, an Oscar nominee this year for *Babe*, portrays Zefrem Cochcrane, the Human scientist who developed warp drive. Woodard plays a civilian who must accompany *Captain Jean-Luc Picard* to save the Earth from the insidious Borg. Cromwell has appeared as a guest star on both *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*.

The film's script, written by Brannon Braga and Ronald D. Moore, went to several drafts before getting the final green light, after notes from the producers and star Patrick Stewart, among others. Michael Dorn says he was also asked for notes, but thought it was "great" as it was, and had none. He says the Worf/Troi romance has been dropped and that there will be another "cute Worf scene", along the lines of the scene of Worf in the water in *Star Trek Generations*.

The entire cast of *ST:TNG* have signed contracts to appear, including Michael Dorn; Worf will return to the *U.S.S. Enterprise* from space station *Deep Space Nine*. Frakes was offered the helm as director partly because key cast members Patrick Stewart and Brent Spiner lobbied for him.

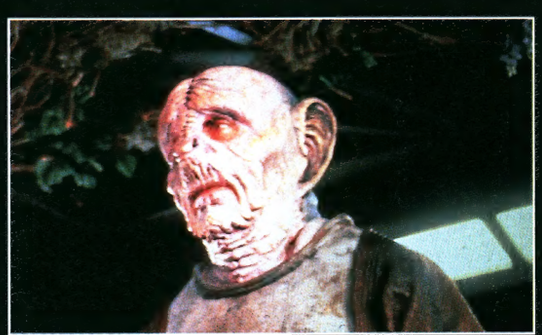
Talking to the *New York Times* in March, Executive Producer Rick Berman told writer Ian Spelling: "It's a very hopeful story that begins a short time after (the events of) the last movie," he adds. "There's a sequence that puts the *U.S.S. Enterprise* crash from *Star Trek Generations* to shame."

"The only enemy is time, because we have less time to prep it than we'd like. We're going at it at full force, though, and I'm very excited by our prospects."

The film, directed by Jonathan Frakes, is still scheduled for a US release date of 22 November. *Paramount Pictures* is likely to start an aggressive marketing campaign for it in mid-summer. The UK release date may still be before the end of this year as of press time. ■

STAR TREK Monthly* will continue to bring you the latest information we have on the new film, which is based on reports from a variety of news sources, in addition to *Paramount Pictures

Below: *James Cromwell as the Yridian Jaglom Shrek from* ST:TNG Birthright



ROUND-UP OF THIS MONTH'S *STAR TREK* NEWS

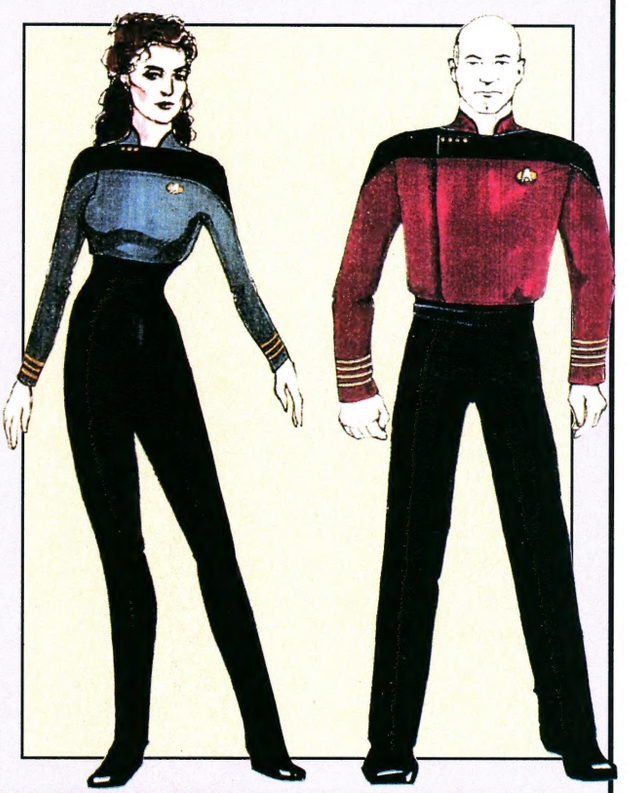
NEW MOVIE COSTUMES PLANNED

The next *Star Trek* film will finally have new costumes... and they will not be the ones that were originally designed for *Star Trek Generations*, which appeared on some of the *Star Trek Generations Playmates/Bandai* action figures before it was dropped.

Although the unused suits were extremely expensive, costume designer Robert Blackman re-evaluated them after the film première and apparently said he was thrilled at the last minute decision not to use them. Due to the frenetic scheduling involved in making the first *Star Trek: The Next Generation* film, Blackman felt that the design of the suits were indeed rushed. Speaking to US magazine *STAR TREK Communicator* in March he said "They [the costumes] were frankly slapped together, incorporating bits and pieces of past movies and the television show. They came off looking fairly uninspired... way too militaristic and austere."

The unused costume designs were recently published in *The Art of Star Trek* from *Simon & Schuster*. Larry Nemecek reports that *Star Trek*'s producers had planned to introduce an all-new Starfleet uniform in *Star Trek Generations* that carried over to the television series as well. Instead they went with existing stock.

STAR TREK Monthly will bring you more on the new designs for the film as we get them from *Paramount Pictures*. ■



Right: *The proposed costumes for* Star Trek Generations

STAR TREK MONTHLY READERS CHOOSE FAVOURITE EPISODES

The Trouble with Tribbles and *City on the Edge of Forever* romped home as *STAR TREK Monthly* readers' choice as favourite original series episodes. The stories will appear on a special tape in a limited edition Tricorder shaped box on 3 June, marking the re-launch of the original series on three-episode tapes on 24 June.

Although several episodes vied for third place, including the Vulcan *pièce de résistance Amok Time*, the first alternate universe story *Mirror, Mirror* and *Star Trek*'s silicon beast story, *Devil in the Dark*, none even approached the two top episodes in terms of votes polled.

Readers also made several valuable suggestions for other *Star Trek* material to be released, including alternate versions of the films and documentaries such as the *Star Trek: The Next Generation – Journey's End*. However, *Star Trek* 'Bloopers' – out takes of mistakes and jokes made during production – were the most requested item. Unfortunately, it's unlikely that such material will ever be commercially available, due to the cost of actors' clearances. ■

We will be announcing the winners of the video poll next issue.

STAR TREK: VOYAGER *SET FOR BBC2*

As the Star Trek *series continue their runs on BBC2 and Sky as previously reported (as of press time), it now looks as though* Star Trek: Voyager *will blast onto BBC television in September or October. Sources have also suggested it may be shown on BBC1. The BBC are also working on a special* Star Trek *event for the August bank holiday. More news as we get it!*

30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATORY EPISODES PLANNED

George Takei and Grace Lee Whitney will be guest starring in a Star Trek: Voyager *episode shot in March but held over for the launch of season three. Entitled* Flashback, *it's one of several celebrations for the 30th anniversary being planned. Perhaps we'll even see the tribbles beam onto* Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, *accompanied by Montgomery Scott?*

PRINCE OF STAR TREK

While Jordan's Prince Abdullah, 34, was in Los Angeles, he visited the Star Trek: Voyager *set and wound up as an extra in one scene. "Take away the title and the trappings, and at the core you have a* Star Trek *fan," said Executive Producer Jeri Taylor. The prince, who is commander of the Jordanian Special Forces in real life, gave a party for the cast after his cameo.*

US DIRECTORS' GUILD BLOCKS ACTORS FROM DIRECTING

Concerned at the number of actors entering the directing field, the US Directors Guild of America has asked producers to limit the practice of using series' stars to direct →

episodes. **The Hollywood Reporter** *noted that while the demand may have been put forth merely as a bargaining chip, "the fact that the DGA has made such a proposal indicates there is a real concern among DGA members that too many actors are taking their jobs." Several* **Star Trek** *episodes have been directed by the show's stars, including Jonathan Frakes, René Auberjonois and Avery Brooks.*

STAR TREK HOLIDAY PARTY!

Larry Nemecek reports that during the mid season holidays, the **Star Trek: Deep Space Nine** *cast threw a party for the staff, cast and crew in Quark's and on the Promenade. This was unusual, since the sets and props are hawkishly guarded against food, drinks, spills and trampling! The event featured "an old-fashioned all-seasons* **ST:DS9** *blooper tape, a hilarious 'guess the writer's identity' quiz with staffers of the show, including* **Paramount Pictures'** *executive Kerry McCluggage. Gifts exchanged among the crew included caps and jackets with various logo patches, a heavy woven* **U.S.S. Voyager** *ship blanket, and a long-sleeved black T-shirt from the* **ST:DS9** *writing staff, inscribed "Nobody Knows I'm a Changeling" backed with "We're Everywhere!" (Last year they gave a cup inscribed "I Survived the Bell Riots").*

US MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS

One thousand guests turned out in March for the opening of the **Museum of Television & Radio** *in Beverly Hills. Inaugural exhibitions for the new museum include 'Stand-Up Comedians on Television', 'Rock 'n' Roll and Radio', and '***Star Trek:** *The Tradition Continues'. Elsewhere, George Takei was guest of honour at* →

STAR TREK ANNIVERSARY PLANS BEGIN TO COME TOGETHER

Barbara Parker reports on an upcoming episode of *Star Trek: Voyager* 30 years in the making...

According to Grace Lee Whitney, "things are cooking on the *U.S.S. Voyager* and on the *U.S.S. Excelsior*!" She began shooting the upcoming episode *Flashback* on 27 March 1996, with the cast and crew of *Star Trek: Voyager,* in which she recreates her role as *Commander Janice Rand.*

The episode is a tribute to 30 years of *Star Trek* and is scheduled to be aired in September. *Captain Sulu* and *Commander Rand* will be brought back in the one episode. Whitney was given hardly any notice to prepare for the part as she was notified perhaps only a week and a half prior to the start date. She took time off to attend the Novacon IV convention in Tysons Corner, Virginia, at the end of March, but had to be back on the *ST:VOY* set on 1 April (which happens to be her birthday) with a 4:15 a.m. make-up call!

Prior to shooting on the set she was introduced to the cast and crew of the show; she said they were all nice and treated her "like royalty." It was Whitney's feeling that it was a big deal just for her to get to see all of them and they were just as excited to meet her.

"The script for Rand is comical," says Whitney, who last appeared as the character aboard the *U.S.S. Excelsior* in *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*. She met *ST:VOY* producer Brannon Braga in his office and said he was just wonderful. The writers were apparently a bit in awe of her, as they see the original cast as "the beginning." Braga advised Whitney of some rewrites and script changes, but all she wanted to know right away was "how much can I tell the fans?" He said "nothing, tell them nothing!"

She is simply awed by the phenomenon of *Star Trek*. It has gone full circle from 1965 when they started in pre-production and Rand wore a gold velour sweater (before the trademark beehive hairdo of the regular series). When the show started, no one had any idea of what would ultimately happen. "It was just a job", she says, but the cast knew they had something special, especially when they saw the dailies. "The chemistry between the actors, the colour, the photography, the great costumes, all contributed to the success of the show. Those same qualities continue today." However, today's sets and costumes are really "high tech," whereas the original *Star Trek* was put together with "cardboard, spit and rubber bands!"

Whitney appeared in at least one hundred shows before doing *Star Trek*, under contract for *Warner Brothers* and *Universal*, among others. She had worked with William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy before doing *Star Trek*, in an episode of the spy series *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.* One story she tells of her time on *Star Trek* involves William Shatner in *The Enemy Within*. In the scene, Rand is distraught over what the Captain has done (unaware that it is his evil aspect on the rampage) and has to tell Spock. They started shooting and Shatner walked right up to her and slapped her right across the face, to get her into the right frame of mind to tell Spock. It threw Whitney off so much that they got the scene in one take! She even got applause from the crew.

Almost every one of the original *Star Trek* cast has written a book except Whitney, who says her life was almost destroyed when she was written out of the series. What ensued after she left in her personal life is something she is still recovering from, even today.

Her book treatment has been sent to almost every US publisher, but they have all rejected it. Apparently, they don't know how to put all of the things that have happened to her together. Whitney has had two offers to make a movie of the week about her life but her literary agent still says the timing is obviously not right. "You do not want to put out a movie of the week without a book, she says. "The book has to come first." There is nothing else to be done so Whitney has said she must have patience and the courage to wait, which is very hard to do. She knows that it will happen, just as filming with *Star Trek: Voyager* has happened.

Whitney emphasises that *Flashback* couldn't have been possible without the support of the fans. She still gets about 80 fan letters a week, as well as feedback from the Internet, and handles all of her fan mail herself. Whitney also reads all of the fanzines. "In fact," she says, "The news of my role on *Star Trek: Voyager* was on the Internet before I even got the job!" ■

STAR TREK-STYLE NEURAL CIRCUITRY ON THE WAY?

Melding the animate and inanimate, the *New Scientist* recently reported that researchers have grown circuits made of brain cells on a base of silicon. They hope their technique could lead to new ways of studying the effects of drugs on the brain without resorting to animal testing, and perhaps allow computer scientists to build machines that use neurons in place of transistors.

Richard Potember of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, has apparently found a way around the problem of sensors and silicons placed inside a living body being attacked by the immune system, producing "a very ordered circuit that mimics a semi-conductor micro-electronics circuit".

If his experiments meet with success, neuron circuits on silicon may be useful in a number of applications and the technique may offer a new type of computer in the future. Japanese scientists are already trying to build a computer out of brain cells and it's hoped that it might one day be possible to combine the speed of inanimate transistors with the flexibility and learning potential of living neurons. Such a technology has already been seen on *Star Trek: Voyager* with its vital 'gel packs', used in the ship's operating systems. ■

***Star Trek's* real science, feature, page 24; *New Scientist* science updates can be found on the World-Wide web at http://www.newscientist.com**

MIRROR, MIRROR

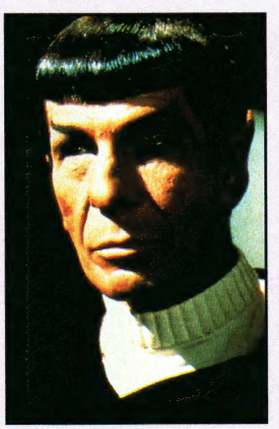
News on *Star Trek* actors and production crew, direct from the US West Coast by Lou Anders

In a very logical move, **Leonard Nimoy** returns to the Los Angeles theatre to direct Trish Vradenburg's *The Apple Doesn't Fall...* The play tells the painful story of a daughter confronting her mother's degenerative Alzheimer's disease. Nimoy told the *Los Angeles Times* that it "is bright and contemporary, touching and moving, and very funny. The play deals with it [Alzheimer's] in a Human way, which is still very funny." The play premièred 22 February at the *Tiffany Theatre* for a six week run in Los Angeles, then travelled to Broadway for an open ended run at the *Lyceum Theatre* beginning in April. On a lighter note, Nimoy made a recent cameo appearance on the new *Jim Hensen Productions' Muppets Alive!* After a skit called *Pigs in Space: Deep Dish Nine*, Miss Piggy complains that *Star Trek* would never do anything as silly as what she was asked to do. Nimoy walks onto the screen and corrects her with a steady stream of *Star Trek* trivia!

While *Mr Spock* is busy with the Muppets, his famous captain, **William Shatner**, will guest star in an episode of the comedy series *Fresh Prince of Bel Air* on NBC. When he is knocked unconscious in a dentist's chair, Shatner undergoes *Star Trek* 'flashbacks'.

More information on **George Takei**'s guest star role for the new series *Space Cases*, from Bill Mumy and Peter David. Takei plays Warlord Shank, the commander of a Spung Killcruiser in hot pursuit of a traveller in distress, given aid by the Space Case crew. Meanwhile, fellow original series helmsman **Walter Koenig** reports he is delighted to have landed himself in his first martial arts movie – *Blonde Justice* – in which he plays a villain of East European extraction. Behind the camera, *Star Trek* movie veteran **Nicholas Meyer** is currently writing a movie called *The High Ground*, which is supposed to be a future Tom Cruise vehicle.

Marina Sirtis made her American stage debut in the play *Loot* at the *Hartford Stage Theatre* in Hartford, Connecticut. Marina plays Fay, a pious woman with a dark side. An article in the *New Haven Register* states how difficult she finds adjusting to the stage after "emoting for the small screen." I've spent 7 $^{1}/_{2}$ years speaking very softly and being internal," said Sirtis. She says the director of the play was not aware of her work in *Star Trek* when he cast her, but once she was in it, the theatre played the connection to the hilt in their ads and even went so far as to have a special *Star Trek* night, where *Star Trek* clubs purchased tickets for that night's show. Meanwhile, fellow *Star Trek: The Next Generation* star **Gates McFadden** went on a special two-day tour of Bosnia to entertain troops. Gates is the first *Star Trek* star to go on such a mission and sign autographs and had hundreds of soldiers get pictures taken with her. On a mission of a different sort, **LeVar Burton** has been nominated by President Clinton to the US National→



Above left: *Still exploring new frontiers – Leonard Nimoy finds himself melding with the Muppets*
Above right: *From stars to stage – Marina Sirtis treads the Hartford boards*

the opening of the **Star Trek***: Federation Science exhibit at the* **Virginia Air and Space Center** *earlier this year, which featured space music performed by York River Orchestra and a food menu that included Carangodu Ferengi, Vulcan Portis Brachura, Celestial Chicken, Karpathian Spore, Trufalgian Meld, Klingon Ale, Papalla Juice and Captain Picard's Wine.*

Briefly... **Star Trek: Voyager** *features a common prop: the 3-D chess set. The 'king' piece is non other than a small stylised version of the Robot from* **Lost In Space***.... The new series* **Muppets Tonight!***, now being broadcast in the US, features a sketch called 'Pigs in Space: Deep Dish Nine' - the next generation of 'Pigs in Space', starring Miss Piggy as the captain of the new Swinetrek... talking to* **Babylon 5** *fans on the Internet, the show's producer Joe Michael Straczynski said Bill Mumy had brought a bit of trivia to his attention: Walter Koenig, who plays the villainous Bester, and Mumy, who plays Lennier, had just completed a scene from the episode* **Dust to Dust***, marking the first time two actors from Sixties'* **Lost In Space** *and* **Star Trek** *had ever worked together. Unfortunately, the scene was cut from the final print... Both* **Babylon 5** *and* **Star Trek** *fans might be interested in knowing that in Eau Claire, Wisconsin (north of Milwaukee), two of the candidates running for City Council positions are Sheridan and Janeway!*

An issue of the US **TV Guide** *featured information on the new* **Star Trek** *Ken and Barbie, featured last issue. Titled 'Beam Me Up, Barbie, or We'll Miss the Prom!', it featured a photo of the dolls, with Barbie in the original series' miniskirt communications uniform and Ken in the captain's rank command uniform.* →

TV Guide *writer Rick Schindler commented, "Does this mean we can look forward to Malibu Barbie's Holodeck? And does Captain Janeway know about this?"*

Finally, it seems the Ferengi leader, The Nagus, is as popular with the **ST:DS9** *cast as he is with the fans. Whenever a cast member screws up a line, a member of the crew pops up and squeaks, Nagus-style, "You failed mis-er-ab-ly!"*

"I hear that a lot, actually," says Armin Shimerman, who plays Quark. Shimerman also says the producers commonly receive fan spec scripts that are "Quark-in-love stories", and are begging fans to stop submitting them. "Though Quark still doesn't have a love interest, Odo is looking better and better to Quark!"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

30 May: Colm Meaney
30 May: Michael Piller
1 June: René Auberjonois
22 June: Tim Russ

News sources this issue:
Paramount Pictures, Dateline: Starfleet, SF News

ROUND-UP OF THIS MONTH'S *STAR TREK* NEWS

Commission on Libraries and Information Sciences. LeVar, who hosts PBS's series *Reading Rainbow*, will return to tape five new episodes of that show scheduled to begin airing in April. Meanwhile, LeVar's favourite android, **Brent Spiner**, made an appearance on the HBO series *Dream On*.

Michael Dorn, a pilot himself, can't understand the discrimination that kept black fighter pilots on the ground for half of World War II. "I've been through a bit of racism, but nothing like this, where you put yourself in a position to take all of that abuse," the black actor said at an Oklahoma City chapter meeting of the Tuskegee Airmen in March. Forced to admit blacks in 1941, the Army Air Corps formed the all-black fighter-pilot squads but never intended to let them fly. When the pilots finally got a chance in 1943, they turned out to be among the best the Army produced.

John De Lancie, who plays the omnipotent Q, made a recent appearance as an attorney on ABC's new drama series, *Murder One*. **Dwight Schultz** (*Reginald Barclay* on *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and *Star Trek: Voyager*) appeared on the 25 February episode of *Paramount Pictures'* syndicated series, *Nowhere Man*. Schultz portrayed Harrison Barton, a somewhat unscrupulous journalist in a flashback episode that unlocked some of the mysteries of that series. **Natalia Nogulich**, (*ST:TNG*'s *Vice-Admiral Alynna Nechayev*) has another reoccurring role on Fox's series *Partners*. **Ashley Judd**, (*Ensign Robin Lefler, ST:TNG – The Game*) will star with Morgan Freeman in *Kiss the Girls*, an adaptation of the harrowing serial killer novel by James Patterson.

Actor **Tom Villard**, who played opposite **Philip Anglim** (*Vedek Bereil*) in the *ST:DS9* episode *The Collaborator*, passed away last year. US television show *Entertainment Tonight* did a little story about him suffering from the HIV virus and how *ST:DS9* gave him the role as a Vedek in a show when no one in Hollywood would hire him. Apparently, some fans confused this actor with Philip Anglim and rumour recently spread that the popular actor had also died.

Anglim hopes his recent announcement will quell its spread: "*No*, I am *not* ill," he stated firmly. "I have no viruses. My life does not move in areas that would put me at risk – if I may put things that way. I am a simple cow farmer. The most I get is a cow kick once in a blue moon!" The actor has a ranch in Tennessee. Anglim was anxious that all *Star Trek* fans' minds be put at rest over the rumours.

Briefly... Script writer **David Gerrold** has written a new book on writing the script of *The Trouble with Tribbles*, published by *Virgin* in the UK... for those interested in Ferengi fashion, the new **Museum of Television and Radio** in Beverly Hills, California features a collection of *Star Trek* uniforms.

Finally, speaking of uniforms, **Barbara Adams**, an alternate juror in the US Whitewater trial, made headlines when she appeared every day in court in a full *Star Trek* costume. Adams, who was deemed acceptable during jury selection (where she wore the uniform as well), was finally dismissed for violating a court order to avoid talking to the press. In an interview with *American Journal,* Miss Adams, a 31-year-old print-shop supervisor, said she is a devotee of the series because it is an alternative to "mindless television" and promotes inclusion, tolerance, peace and faith in mankind. "If it helps to make people think a little bit more what those ideals are, then I'll keep wearing this uniform," she said. During jury selection, neither the prosecution nor the defence struck her from the list of prospective jurors. The judge never admonished her for her wardrobe. Governor Jim Guy Tucker and President Clinton's Whitewater partners, James and Susan McDougal, are on trial on charges of fraud and conspiracy. They are accused of improperly obtaining $3 million in federally backed loans.

Dusty Iron Wing McCrea, an Indian actress and stunt rider whose film and television credits included episodes of *Gunsmoke*, *Star Trek*, and other series, passed away recently. In 1980 she appeared in the film *Windwalker* with Trevor Howard. ■

Sand Blast: David Carson talks about his new movie

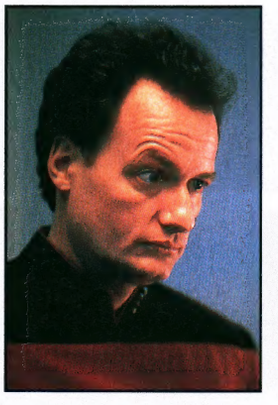
The success of *Star Trek Generations* has launched director David Carson out of television and into a promising career in the world of blockbuster Hollywood feature films. While on location scouting in Morocco, Carson takes a moment to talk about his current project, *Sand Blast*, which he is directing for *Warner Bros.*

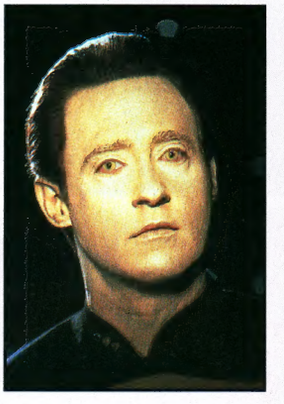
"It's an action adventure movie staring Wesley Snipes, and it takes place in the desert. It's basically about a mine expert in the Army who has various experiences, good and bad, with Green Berets, Bedouins, and all sorts of other colourful characters." Although the setting for *Sand Blast* is Iraq, the actual filming is being done elsewhere for obvious reasons. As Carson explains, "Iraq is not a particularly friendly place right now, so we're doing it in Morocco."

Wesley Snipes plays Daniel, a disgraced minefield clearance expert, who discovers that the Green Berets he has been assigned to work with are actually criminals. Daniel teams up with a female pilot and a young boy named Marzuq, the 12-year old grandson of a Bedouin Sheikh. Together, they have to prevent the renegade Green Berets from stealing some dangerous, high-tech bombs. "It's very much an action adventure with the emphasis on adventure," Carson explains. "It's got quite a lot of special effects, CGI, and a great deal of running around and shooting people. It will be a lot of fun."

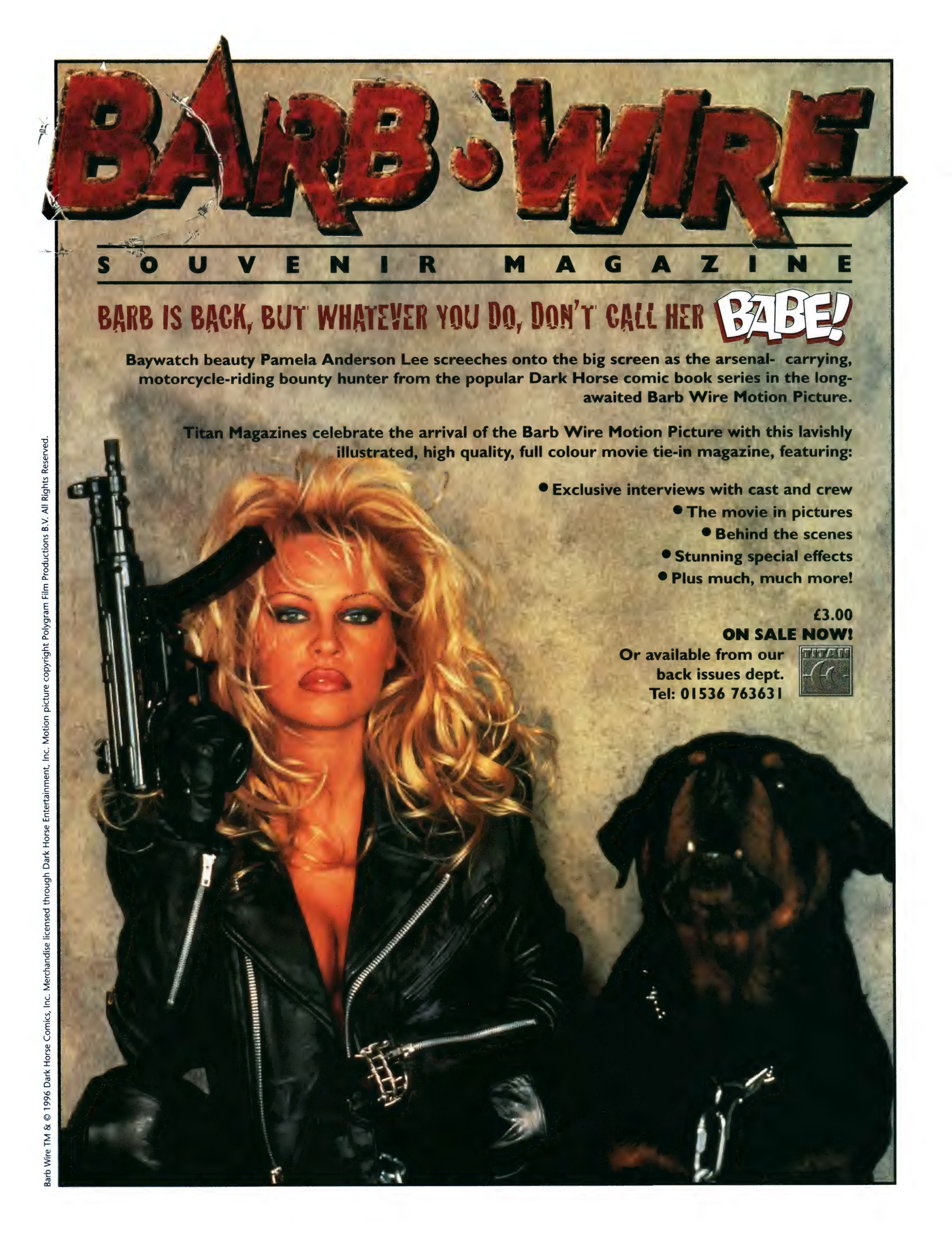
With *Star Trek: First Contact* underway, fans may be wondering why Carson was not attached to that as well. "I wasn't approached to do *Star Trek: First Contact,* and I think the reason was that I was already attached to *Sand Blast* and everybody knew that."

Despite being unavailable for *Star Trek: First Contact,* Carson doesn't rule out the possibility that he will work on future *Star Trek* movies. "*Star Trek* is something that I will always be interested in working on. It's a fascinating series, be it television or film, and I would love to do another movie." ■





Above left: *Q is reduced from judge to mere attorney in* Murder One
Above right: *Do androids dream of electric sheep? Brent Spiner appears on the American series* Dream On


BARB WIRE
SOUVENIR MAGAZINE
BARB IS BACK, BUT WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T CALL HER BABE!
Baywatch beauty Pamela Anderson Lee screeches onto the big screen as the arsenal- carrying, motorcycle-riding bounty hunter from the popular Dark Horse comic book series in the long-awaited Barb Wire Motion Picture.
Titan Magazines celebrate the arrival of the Barb Wire Motion Picture with this lavishly illustrated, high quality, full colour movie tie-in magazine, featuring:
• Exclusive interviews with cast and crew
• The movie in pictures
• Behind the scenes
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TITAN
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Above: The Muse
Above right: To The Death
Right: The Quickening
Below: For The Cause

EPISODE CHECK

Buoyed by ever more complex storylines and plot intrigue, big changes were once again in the offing for the denizens of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* as the most popular hour-long series in American off-network distribution neared the end of its fourth season. By the end of May, US audiences had seen:

Spoiler Alert! Don't read any further if you don't want your enjoyment of upcoming shows dampened by knowing too much beforehand...

The Muse

US Airdate: Week commencing 29 April

The widow of *Star Trek* creator Gene Roddenberry, Majel Barrett, conceived this story herself in tandem with series writer-producer René Echevarria. The show was the 13th directed by former producer turned freelance director David Livingston, his fourth of a year which began with *The Visitor*.

In recent appearances and interviews, Majel Barrett has relished her summation of this story with these words: "*Lwaxana Troi* shows up the station – and she's pregnant!" While the ambassador is seeking *Odo* as a hurry-husband to avoid marriage to the real father, *Jeyal*, and his unwanted culture which would claim her child, a separate story sees *Jake* nearly nearly drained by a succubus-like alien woman who seemingly feeds off his creative writing energy as he dashes off pages like a writer possessed and literally burns himself out. Although the effect is negated, the pages so completed form the basis of a first novel, *Anslem* – the same as seen in Jake's alternate future of *The Visitor* earlier this season.

Also, watch out for the actor playing Jeyal: it's none other than Michael Ansara, who counts *Star Trek*'s great past and present *Klingon* warrior *Kang* among his many character roles over the years.

For The Cause

US Airdate: Week commencing 6 May

This story by Mark Gehred-O'Connor, who previously had credits involved with second season's *Second Sight* and last season's *Meridian*, was made into a teleplay by series Supervising Producer Ronald D. Moore. The show was directed by James Conway — his sixth for *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* and the fourth of a busy year which included *The Way of the Warrior* and *Little Green Men*.

Fans have had their doubts about *Lt. Cmdr. Michael Eddington*, played by Kenneth Marshall, ever since he showed up along with the *U.S.S. Defiant* in the third season opener. Here, however, he turns out not to be the rumoured *Dominion* shapeshifter but a recent convert to the *Maquis* cause – an effort, *Captain Sisko* is grieved to learn here, which long ago claimed his new love, freighter *Captain Kasidy Yates*.

As a subplot, our 'plain and simple' spy-turned-tailor *Garak* is seen as having his eye on *Ziyal*, *Gul Dukat*'s outcast half-*Bajoran* daughter who's being mentored by *Major Kira Nerys* on the station. Their meeting occurs in the stands for the long-mentioned Bajoran game of springball, which we finally see in action.

Far left: The Muse
Left: For The Cause
Below: The Quickening
Bottom: To The Death

The Quickening

US Airdate: Week commencing 13 May

Naren Shankar, former staff writer on *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and *seaQuest DSV*, contributed this script — his first for the *Star Trek* mythos since *Heroes and Demons* for *Star Trek: Voyager* last year. Taking the director's chair for the second time this year, and fourth in two seasons, was René *'Odo'* Auberjonois.

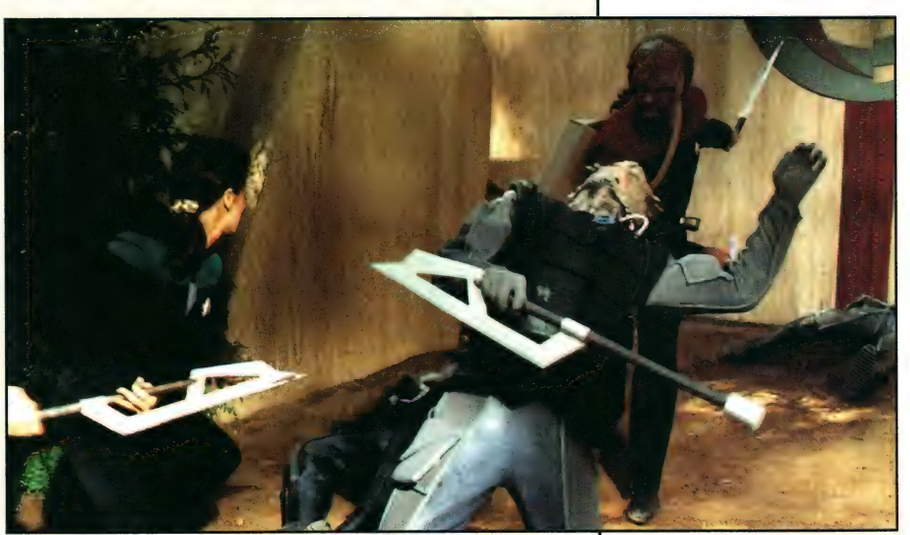
Dr Bashir and *Lt. Jadzia Dax* race to find a cure after they stumble across a planet whose population is under siege by plague after a horrible destruction. Some exterior scenes for this show, whose cast includes actor Michael Sarrazin, were filmed on location in Los Angeles.

To The Death

US Airdate: Week commencing 20 May

LeVar *'Geordi La Forge'* Burton wrapped up his first year as a *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* director with this segment, his fourth, which was penned by series Executive Producer Ira Steven Behr and Co-Producer Robert Hewitt Wolfe.

Of all the interesting turns to happen, Sisko's crew discovers a renegade *Jem'Hadar* faction has rebelled against their Founders' masters – and is asked by the regular Jem'Hadar, through their masters, to accompany them through the wormhole to a suspected base. It's not the greatest foundation for trust, although even a Jem'Hadar leader's personal threats don't shake Sisko – much. The adversary is portrayed by the powerful Clarence Williams III, perhaps best recalled as Link from the old 70s television youth-oriented cop show, *Mod Squad*.



Following repeats, two more stories remained left to air in June as *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*'s season wound down – **Body Parts** and **Broken Link**, both promising big surprises for a number of *ST:DS9* characters and the known *Star Trek* Universe. Don't miss next month's update! ■

by Larry Nemecek

Above and above right: Tuvix
Right and below: the Basics, Part 1

EPISODE CHECK

By the end of May, *Star Trek: Voyager* wrapped up its second season for its US audience with a flourish, thanks to an 'old-fashioned' cliff-hanger ending à la *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. By mid-April, when the show completed filming, four more shows had been shot for the kick-off of season three next fall – including the season-opening conclusion and the 30th anniversary tie-in show *Flashback* featuring George *'Sulu'* Takei and Grace Lee *'Janice Rand'* Whitney in a scenario taken from *Tuvok*'s troubled memories of the *U.S.S. Excelsior*. More on those later: the intriguing season-enders included:

Spoiler Alert! Don't read any further if you don't want your enjoyment of upcoming shows dampened by knowing too much beforehand...

Tuvix

US Airdate: Week commencing 6 May

Freelancers Andrew Price and Mark Gaberman sold the story which formed the basis of Executive Story Editor Kenneth T. Biller's teleplay, which was originally entitled 'Symbiosis' throughout its development and shooting. The segment was directed by Cliff Bole – his fourth for the series, all completed this year, after the intense *Cold Fire* and *Meld* and the romantic *Lifesigns*.

The 'transporter accident' plot device is nothing new to *Star Trek*, going back of course all the way to *The Enemy Within* from the original series' first season, but what happens to *Tuvok* and *Neelix* is definitely a first.

Even more so than their odd fusion into an all-new combined being, which is the episode's namesake, is the argument over rights which ensues: in this case, the grieving *Kes* and Captain Janeway lead the crew in reversing the effect which *Tuvix* views himself as an all-new lifeform. Since the last thing Tuvix wants is to be split asunder, who has the right to decide on that course even if it does become possible?

Resolutions

US Airdate: Week commencing 13 May

Alexander Singer directed his third segment of the series, all coming this year, which was written by series Executive Producer and co-creator Jeri Taylor.

"This is the show that is going to make a lot of people happy," Taylor has said of *Resolutions*, "at least according to the mail that I get, because it basically traps *Commander Chakotay* and *Captain Janeway* alone together on a 'desert island' planet." Indeed, the *U.S.S. Voyager* is forced to leave them behind when they can't be cured of a disease and their only hope is to stay within the immu-

nising atmosphere – at least until a slick trick outwits the *Vidiians*, their only hope for a cure. Along the way a virtual mutiny erupts against *Tuvok* in command after he logically opts to fully abandon them and hope for a cure, against the crew's wishes. Making a return visit is the *Doctor*'s love interest, the Vidiian *Dr Danara Pel,* first played by Susan Diol in *Lifesigns*.

In the end, the ship returns with the cure just as the stranded duo have begun to consider romance in their lonely life together alone.

The Basics, Part I

US Airdate: Week commencing 20 May

For the second consecutive show, an *ST:VOY* executive producer and co-creator produced this script. In addition, both writer Michael Piller and Director Rick Kolbe – who has now helmed his seventh show of the series since completing the pilot *Caretaker* – would return for the conclusion, which wrapped the filming season in mid-April but will be held over among four shows for broadcast next September.

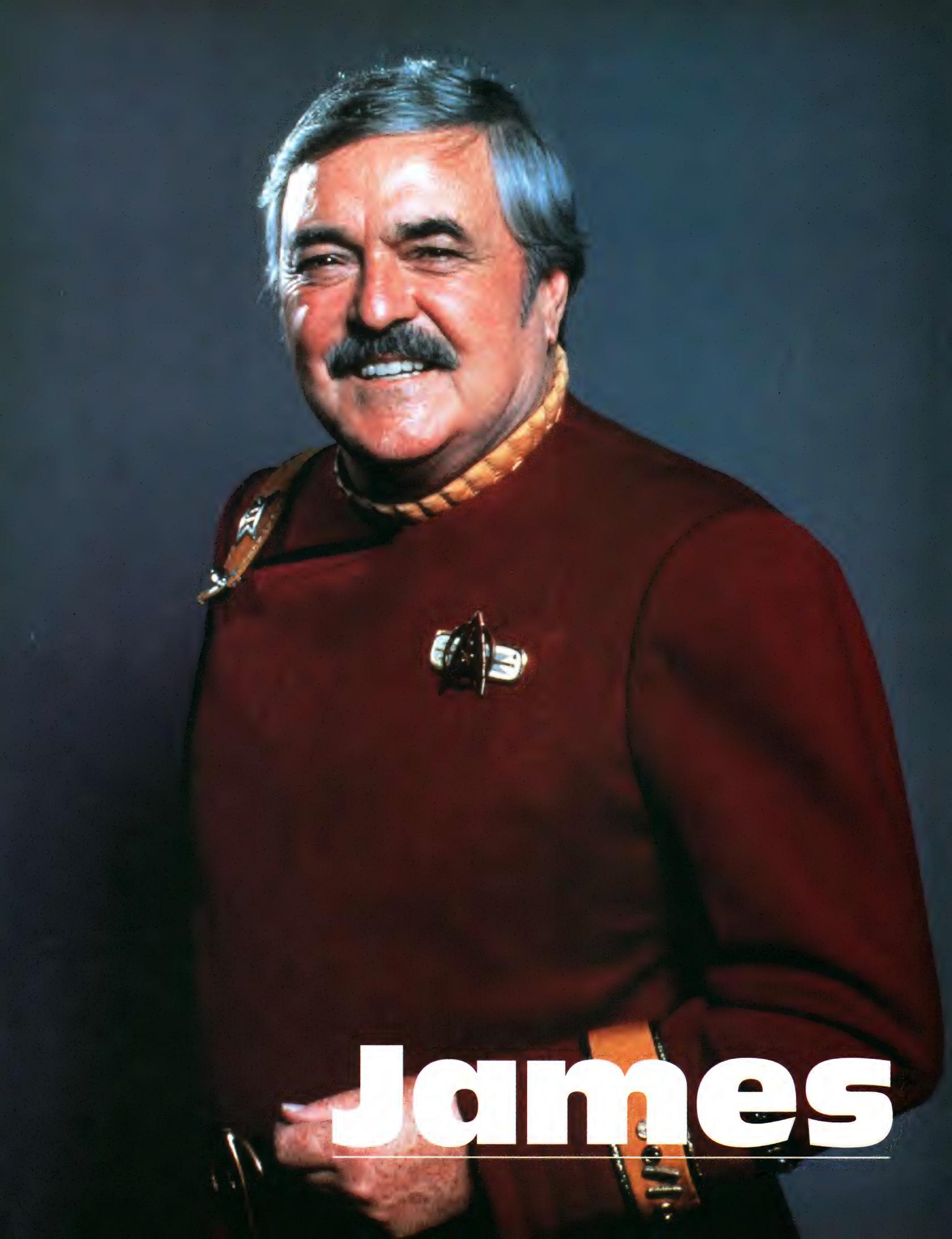
What a slam-bang end to the season – and to events that have been boiling up for two years. The ever-manipulative *Seska* pulls the strings once again, this time tricking Commander Chakotay into believing she and her baby are in danger from *Culluh* of the *Kazon-Nistrim* because her baby's father has been proved to be Chakotay, from the DNA sample first extracted against his will in *Maneuvers*.

Her trick works – the Kazon take the *U.S.S. Voyager* after a fierce battle and *Lt. Tom Paris* is presumed dead when he takes a shuttle for help to a nearby *Talaxian* convoy. The entire crew is dumped on a primitive planet with no supplies or weapons, facing their fate together, except for two who remain hidden among the swaggering Kazon: the Doctor, who had shut himself off, and *Lon Suder*, the psychopathic killer and one-time *Maquis* first seen in *Meld*, who has been trying so hard to break his habit of guiltless killing.

That closes out the season, although as noted there are four episodes ready to go for next year: **Sacred Ground** and **False Profit** along with the already-mentioned **The Basics, Part II** and **Flashback**. Until next month, stay tuned... ■

by Larry Nemecek

Above and below far left: Tuvix
Below left and below: the Basics, Part 1


James

"My fondest memories are the beautiful aliens!"

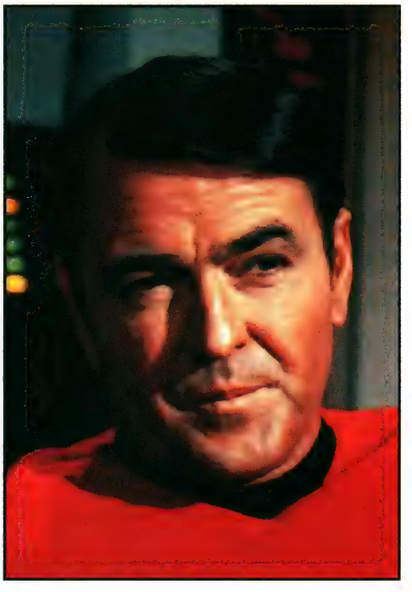
(April 1996, Generations II convention, London)

An Engineer's Log

Joe Nazzaro engages in conversation with James Doohan

"**Beam me up, Scotty." For nearly 30 years,** those words have been inscribed into the lexicon of popular culture, as enduring a phrase as 'play it again, Sam, 'or 'Frankly Scarlett–' well, you get the idea.

That now classic command, given in countless permutations, was directed to *Montgomery Scott*, chief engineer of the *U.S.S. Enterprise* in the original *Star Trek* series. It's also the title of a new autobiography by James Doohan, who with the help of best-selling novelist Peter David, recalls his time before, during and after Starfleet.



As Doohan explains, the reasons for writing a book were not prompted by the recent flood of *Star Trek*-related bios that have been flooding bookstores of late, but rather a long-standing demand from fans and friends. "When it gets right down to it, I've had at least a thousand people that when I started talking to them about this and that, said, '0h my God, why don't you write a book?' It wasn't me that shoved myself into it, it was all these people – not just fans but also people who I knew long before *Star Trek*."

For devoted viewers who may be expecting another tell-all *Star Trek* tome, the actor insists a relatively small percentage of *Beam Me Up, Scotty* is devoted to his tenure on the show. A large part of it looks back at his wartime experiences as well as a very long and accomplished acting career.

"As of 12 January of this year, I celebrated 50 years as an actor, which in itself is a major accomplishment," says Doohan. "The first job I got paid for was a radio show in Toronto on 12 January 1946. I was also on television the very first Tuesday of transmission back in New York City – this was during the live days, long before tape came along. I was able to do 450 live television shows and never once played a Scotsman!"

Indeed, it seems no conversation with Doohan can continue for very long without the subject of his legendary alter-ego inevitably arising. Oddly enough, the actor's involvement with the original *Star Trek* series came about simply because he was in the right place at the wrong time; or perhaps vice versa.

"Two weeks before they were actually going to shoot the second *Star Trek* pilot, my agent sent me to read for the part of a Scotland Yard inspector for a show called *Burke's Law* starring Gene Barry. I did three British accents for them, and they smiled and said, 'That's very good Jimmy, but we think you look a little too much like Gene Barry, and it would look like nepotism.' I said, 'Well, I'm much better-looking than he is,' but I said it smilingly and walked out the door.

"10 days later, the director Jim Goldstone called me and said, 'Jimmy, would you come in and do some of your accents for these *Star Trek* people?' I had no idea who they were, but I went in on a Saturday morning, and they handed me a piece of paper – there was no part there for an engineer, it was just some lines, and every three lines or so, I changed my accent. I ended up doing eight or nine accents for that reading, and at the end, Gene Roddenberry asked me, 'Which one do you like?'

"I said, 'If you want an engineer, he'd better be a Scotsman,' because those were the only engineers I had

Opposite and left: *Forget Braveheart – there is only one true Scottish hero...*

Doohan

MONTGOMERY SCOTT

2022 *Born, presumably on Earth; parents unknown.*

2040 *Enters Starfleet Academy.*

2242 *As ensign still enrolled at Academy, begins first starship posting.*

2244 *Graduates Starfleet Academy.*

2264 *Named as chief engineer under* Captain James T. Kirk, U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-A.

2269 *Promoted to commander, begins oversight of major* U.S.S. Enterprise *refit on Earth.*

2271 *Acts as* U.S.S. Enterprise *chief engineer during V'Ger crisis.*

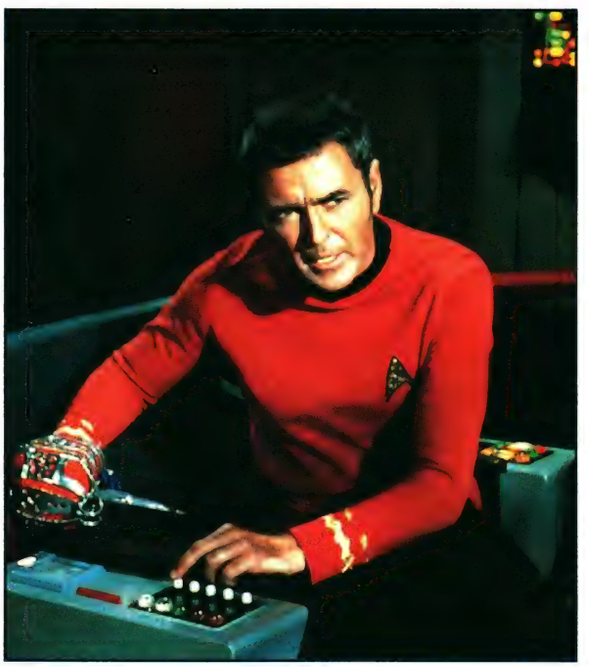
2285 *Promoted to captain, oversees test of transwarp drive for* U.S.S. Excelsior *under* Captain Styles *until sabotaging it in an effort to help Kirk steal* U.S.S. Enterprise.

2286 *Engineers rescue of two hump-back whales from 1986 to save Earth from whale-song aliens; cleared of conspiracy in theft of the* U.S.S. Enterprise *with fellow officers before UFP Council.*

2293 *Delays retiring after a 51-year Starfleet career at Kirk's request to join talks which lead to the Khitomer Accords; witnesses christening of* U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-B *and death of Kirk.*

2294 *Retires from Starfleet; transport ship* U.S.S. Jenolen *missing en route to Norpin Colony, presumed lost with rest of crew and passengers.*

2369 *Rescued from a 75-year transporter loop aboard downed* U.S.S. Jenolen, *discovered on a Dyson Sphere's exterior by* U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D; *loaned the shuttlecraft* Goddard.



read anything about; all the ships they had built, and so forth. Gene said, 'Well, we rather like that too,' and while it's a longer story, that's basically how it happened."

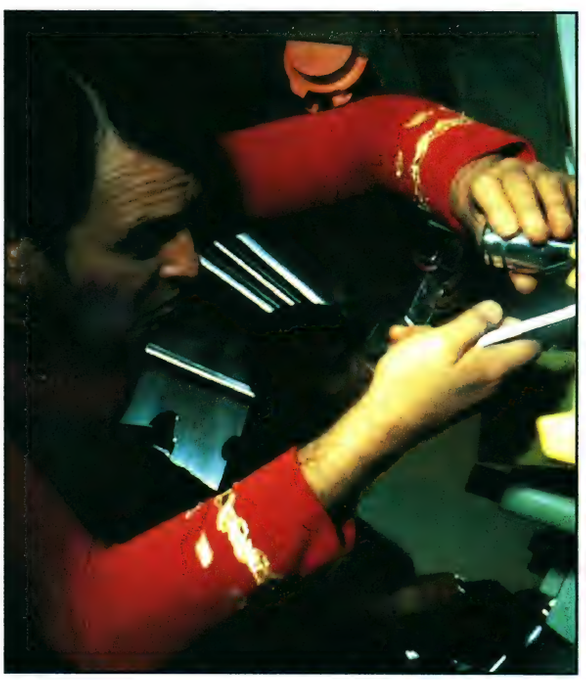
While it's easy to look back on the entire *Star Trek* phenomena with hindsight and discuss the reasons for its continuing success, no one at the time, least of all the cast, really knew what they were getting into. "Now of course, it isn't just a job, but back then, it was a completely different situation. After the first three or four conventions that came around 1971-73, we said, 'I suppose it will go on for a couple of years and then fade away,' and found ourselves saying the same thing 10 years later.

"20 years later, we were saying, 'Good God, it's going to go on forever!' and it just keeps going. I'm still doing 35-40 conventions a year, and I do a lot of work for computer companies, mostly because of certain episodes of the show, and particularly the scene in *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* with me talking to the computer. That scene really grabbed people by their funny bone, and it's the sort of background they want from me all the time."

"Nobody could possibly be as good as we were - to be that good you'd have to be dead!"

(April 1996, Generations II Convention, London)

If corporate entities still tend to link Doohan with his role as a futuristic engineer, that association has had an even more positive effect on fans of the series. For nearly three decades, countless would-be engineers have launched their careers using Scotty as a role model. "One of the most beautiful things that's happened to me is that I've been given an Honorary Doctorate of Engineering from the Milwaukee University of Engineering. It was



James Doohan PROFILE

BIRTHDAY: 3 March
BIRTHPLACE: Canada

Selected Credits:
FILM
The Wheeler Dealers (aka Separate Beds) (1963)
36 Hours (1964)
The Satan Bug (1965) – Bit
Bus Riley's Back in Town (1965)
Scalplock (1966, TV)
Jigsaw (1968)
Pretty Maids All in a Row (1971) – Follo
Man in the Wilderness (1971) – Benoit
Star Trek: The Motion Picture (1979) – Montgomery Scott
Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan (1982) – Lieutenant Commander Montgomery Scott
Star Trek III: The Search for Spock (1984) – Engineer Montgomery Scott
Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home (1986) – Montgomery Scott
Star Trek V: The Final Frontier (1989) – Scotty
Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country (1991) – Montgomery 'Scotty' Scott
Double Trouble (1992) – O'Brien
National Lampoon's Loaded Weapon 1 (1993) – Scotty
Amore! (1993) – Dr Landon
Star Trek: Generations (1994) – Montgomery 'Scotty' Scott
Storybook (1995)

TELEVISION
Space Command (1953)
The Virginian (1962)
Star Trek (1966) – Lt. Commander Montgomery Scott
Star Trek: The Animated Series (1973, voice) – Lt. Arex
Jason of Star Command (1979)
Knight Rider 2000 (1991, TV) – Himself

mostly because of the fact that when students applied to the school, on the dotted line where it said, 'Why did you want to become an engineer?' they'd put my name in."

Not surprisingly, there was also a down side to Doohan's work on *Star Trek*. When the series was cancelled after just three seasons, the actor soon found that he had been well and truly typecast – and nobody was casting Scotsmen, thank you very much.

As Doohan recalls, "We shot our last episode in January 1969 and three weeks later I was working on another show, and another three weeks after that. It went on and on and I had no problem at all. Just shortly after Christmas of 1970 I got a call from a director I had worked with in 1962, who asked me, 'Jimmy, can you do a French-Canadian?' I said, 'Certainly,' and he said, 'Okay, let your beard grow, and be over here in five days.' It was a movie called *Man In the Wilderness*, and basically, I worked there for five months.

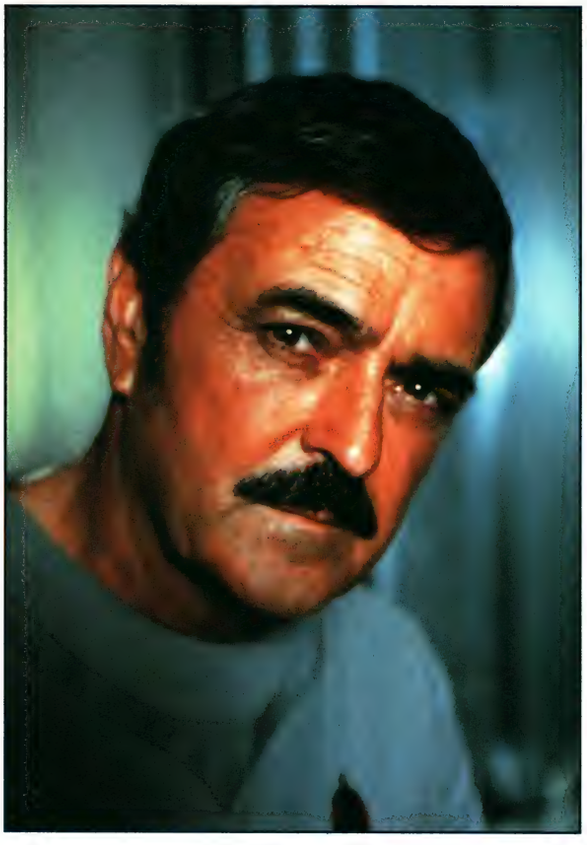
"Then, when I came back in July of 1971, I'd go out to producer's offices to read for parts, and I'd walk in there and the secretary would say, 'Oh, hi Scotty!' They hadn't done that before, but now I began hearing 'Oh, hi Scotty!' and producers saying, 'I'm sorry, but there's nothing for Scotsmen today,' and I started to get really pissed off.

"It got to the point by mid-1973 that I was practically flat broke, but fortunately, around that time I got a letter from a big agency in New York, saying, 'we're getting a lot of requests for you at universities and colleges. We take 30% as our fee, but would you like to join us?' I said, 'That's great, because it's 70% that I'm not getting now,' so over a ten-year period, I did 250 universities. It kept bread

"Scotty is only interested in Scottish girls. He's not even interested in Scottish guys, although the kilts look very nice!"

**(April 1996,
Generations II Convention, London)**

Opposite page:
Top left: *Mr Scott gives those darn Klingons a damn good thrashing*
Top right: *An officer and a gentleman – just don't keep him away from that engine room for too long*
Bottom left: *The miracle worker*
Bottom right: *Who else would you trust at the transporter controls?*
This page:
Top left: *The uniform may have changed, and time left a few more wrinkles, but the Scotsman's love of his engines never fades*
Left: *An officer and a gentleman – mostly!*



Right: *Obviously still having trouble with tribbles – the moustache stayed for all seven films*
Far right: *An engineer's duty is to his Captain... breaking the rules in* **STIII: TSFS**
Below: *Mr Scott and Dr McCoy get to grips with barbarism in the 21st Century*

on the table, because nobody was hiring me, even as a Scotsman."

It was nearly a decade later before the entire cast of the space drama was reunited, this time for *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*, the first of the highly successful feature film outings. While it was nice to have the old gang back together again, Doohan says there was also a more practical concern. "The only thing I can remember thinking at the time was that work was work, and I had to work to make a living. When I heard they were going to start a movie again, all I could think was, 'Thank God, maybe we'll make a living out of this show!' because it was 10 years later, and we knew what the fans thought."

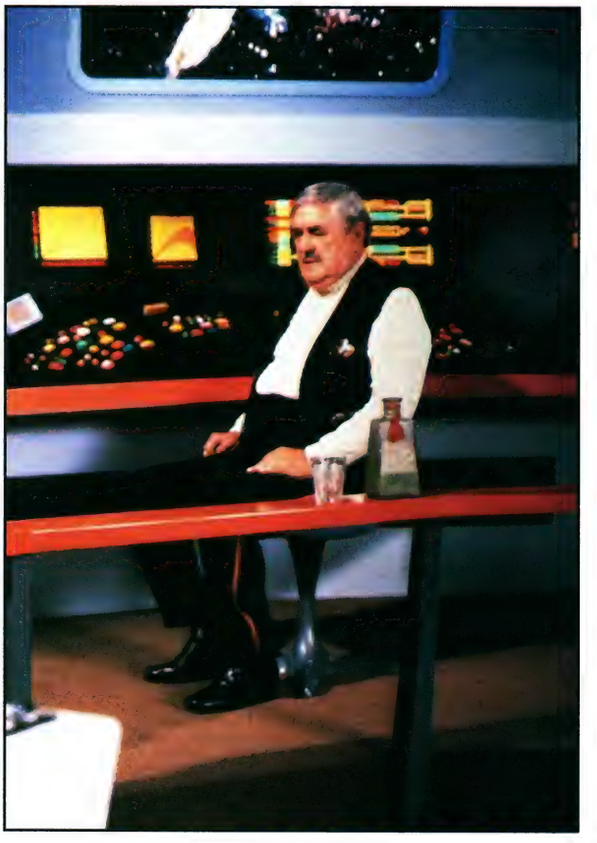
That said, Doohan feels the *Star Trek* films really didn't hit their stride until numbers two, three and four. "(Director) Nicholas Meyer was so in love with *Star Trek* and was such a terribly good director. He's one of the best directors we ever had, although the best was Leonard Nimoy."

It was Nimoy who directed *Star Trek III: The Search For Spock* and *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home,* the latter regarded by many as the best of the *Star Trek* films. "The beautiful thing about Leonard is that when he directed the third movie which was his first direction, he tended to talk an awful lot, but when he directed the next one, he hardly talked at all. I picture him going home at the end of the day and saying, 'Oh boy, I sure talked an awful lot directing that movie; I'm going to shut up when it comes to number four!'"

Does Doohan agree with many of his co-stars that *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* was the high point as far as the *Star Trek* films were concerned? "It was fun to work on, there's no doubt about that, but I still think that our best movie was *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*. It was mostly written by Nicholas Meyer, and most of what he predicted in that movie happened before the Russians broke down. It was actually part of our story; the intrigue and everything else that went on behind the scenes. I think it was beautifully done, and beautifully directed."

The actor's comments are less charitable regarding the Shatner-directed *Star Trek V: The Final Frontier*. There were a lot of complaints that the characters weren't taken seriously. "The only reason that I agreed to it was they had just spent $200,000 on the sets, but I was not happy, and nobody was happy with Bill. I really don't want to upset the apple cart."

Having spent two-and-a-half decades exploring the *Star Trek* Universe, it seemed a natural step for Doohan to eventually make an appearance on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. In the sixth season episode *Relics*, Scotty is rescued from a decades-old transporter loop and brought



Far right: *'There's a traitor in our midst.' Scotty keeps a watchful eye over the crew in* **STVI: TUC**
Right: *There's a captain on the bridge – and his name's not Kirk!* **ST:TNG: Relics**
Below: *Mr Scott demonstrates his grasp of the* **U.S.S. Enterprise***'s layout in* **STV: The Final Frontier**

aboard the *U.S.S. Enterprise-NCC-1701-D*, where he discovers that much has changed during his absence. "It was terribly easy to do, because they treated me like a king! It was just a marvellous experience."

Did a reconstruction of the original *U.S.S. Enterprise* bridge used in the episode bring back any memories of the first series? "Well yes, but I'm not that much into nostalgia. I know that it has to be shown, and I supplied whatever I thought was necessary, but I'm not sentimental about that sort of thing."

Doohan chuckles at *Relics* Director Alex Singer's early misgivings that the script might have been too demanding for the 70-something actor. "I'm still as alive as ever!" he notes. "I had a major operation last August, but I've fully recovered from that. I took five or six months off, but it was just a circulation problem and they solved it; they gave me new arteries. I can now walk better than I did before."

Despite the success of *Relics*, Scotty has yet to make another appearance in the current *Star Trek* Universe. "I thought once was damn nice of them, but I'm surprised that I haven't been on *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. I was doing a convention in Australia with (Executive Producer) Michael Piller who said, 'We're getting a tremendous amount of mail Jimmy, wanting you to be on *ST:DS9*.' I let a little pause go by, and said, 'Well..?' I think maybe they've been saying to themselves, 'We've got to drop these guys sooner or later.'"

Doohan's last *Star Trek*-related appearance to date was in the opening sequence to *Star Trek Generations*, in which Scotty is reunited with *James T. Kirk* and *Pavel A. Chekov* to launch the newly-christened *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-B*. Looking back at the film today, the experience was a disappointment. "If they were going to split it properly, why didn't they plead with the two top actors Bill and Leonard to appear in it, even if it was going to be for a little less money than the other films? I wish they had done that – got them all straightened out one way or the other – and then written the script, because I think it was just terrible not to have Leonard and De [Forrest Kelley] on there, or Nichelle and George.

"But I'm not going to turn down money because of what they did. The way it went, if Leonard had said, 'Yes, I'd be delighted to be in that movie,' I wouldn't have been on it!"

"I think I would've liked to have been a farmer!"

(April 1996, Generations II Convention, London)

Turning his attention to current projects in the works, Doohan was recently re-united with former co-stars George Takei and Walter Koenig, filming new introductions for CIC's upcoming *Star Trek* video re-releases. On the solo front, he's keeping busy with corporate projects, including a video for *Hitachi*. "They've re-engineered part of the company, and I was called in as a celebrity to make a little speech to let them know that nobody was going to be fired, just broken up into different teams. The president of the company came to the dinner dressed as a full Starfleet Admiral – can you imagine?

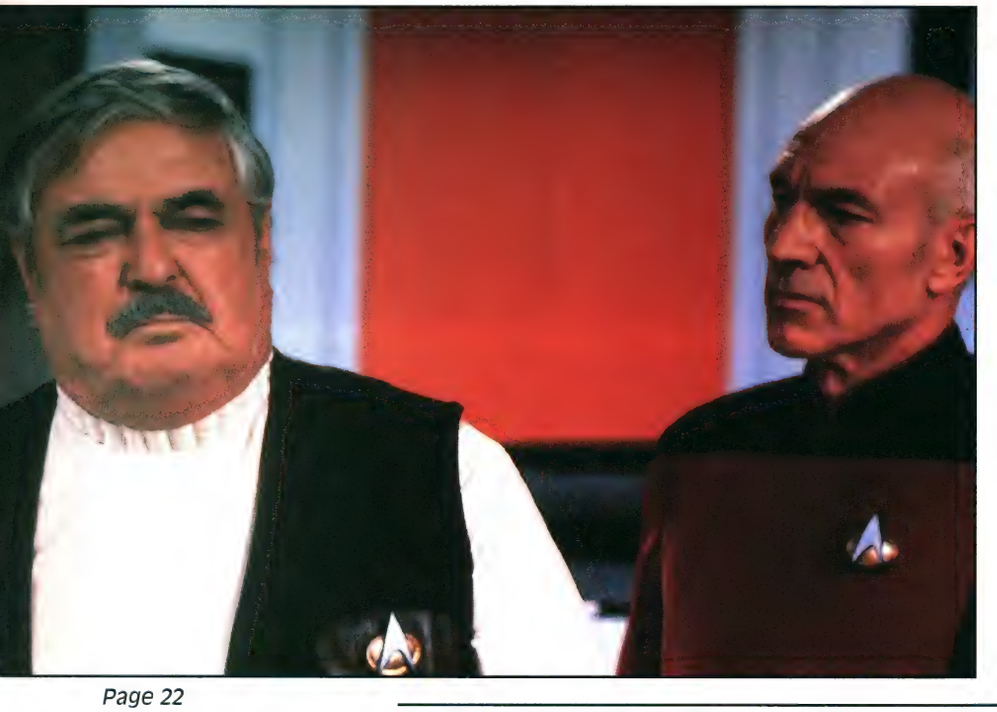
"So I just did some more filming for them, and I'm about to do a commercial for another company that is putting out a very fast laptop computer. I've also done some voice-overs, which pay you a fantastic amount of money just for saying five or six lines!"

And then there's Doohan's brand new literary career. After teaming up with Peter David to write *Beam Me Up, Scotty*, he'll be collaborating on other book projects in the not-too-distant future. "Peter has written a lot of books and is a very good writer, so I was delighted to be working with him. I originally said, 'I'm no writer; you're going to have to give me a ghost writer, because I'm not used to it.' I remember back in 1946 when I first got into this business, I said to myself, 'I'd better sit down and see if I can write something.' I got as far as the word 'the' and that was it.

"Since then, the publishers got after me because they want me to do these SF books, with the help of another writer. Those books are going to be coming out five or six months after my own."

With so many irons in the fire, it now appears that James Doohan will be able to give his well-known alter-ego a rest from time to time. And finally, before we forget, one final question for the veteran actor: was there a real-life inspiration for Montgomery Scott? Apart from offering the information that the name is that of his maternal grandfather, Doohan says there was indeed a source for Scotty's distinctive dialect. "Early in World War II, I had to go to a big signalling bombardier at that time, and the guy who was in the cot next to me was from Aberdeen. I couldn't understand a word he said for at least a week!" ■

***Generations II* soundbites courtesy of Stargazer Productions.**



Right: *Generations apart – Captain Scott reminisces with Captain Jean-Luc Picard in* ST:TNG: Relics

BEAM THESE UP, SCOTTY...

Pearls of wit and wisdom from *Star Trek*'s most famous engineer...

"We should have left those fuzz-faced goons in the transporter..."

Day of the Dove

"I'm sorry you said that sir, because now you've gone a *wee* bit too far..."

The Trouble With Tribbles, after a *Klingon* insults the *U.S.S. Enterprise*

Scott: "He called you a tin-plated, overbearing dictator with delusions of Godhood!"
Kirk: "And *that's* when you hit him!"
Scott: "Ah, no, sir. We're big enough to take a *few* insults!"

Scott explains why he started a fight with Klingons in *The Trouble With Tribbles*

Kirk: "Scotty, you're confined to quarters."
Scott: "Yes, sir. *Thank you*, sir! That'll give me a chance to catch up on me technical journals!"

The Trouble With Tribbles

"I beamed the whole kit and kaboodle over to the Klingons' engine room... where they'll be no tribble at all."

Excruciating humour as *The Trouble With Tribbles* reaches a close

"I know this ship like the back of my hand."

Scotty just before he turns and walks into a bulkhead in *Star Trek V: The Final Frontier*

"Starship captains are like children. They want everything right now and they want it their way. But the secret is to give them only what they need, not what they want."

Scotty in conversation with *Geordi La Forge, Relics.*

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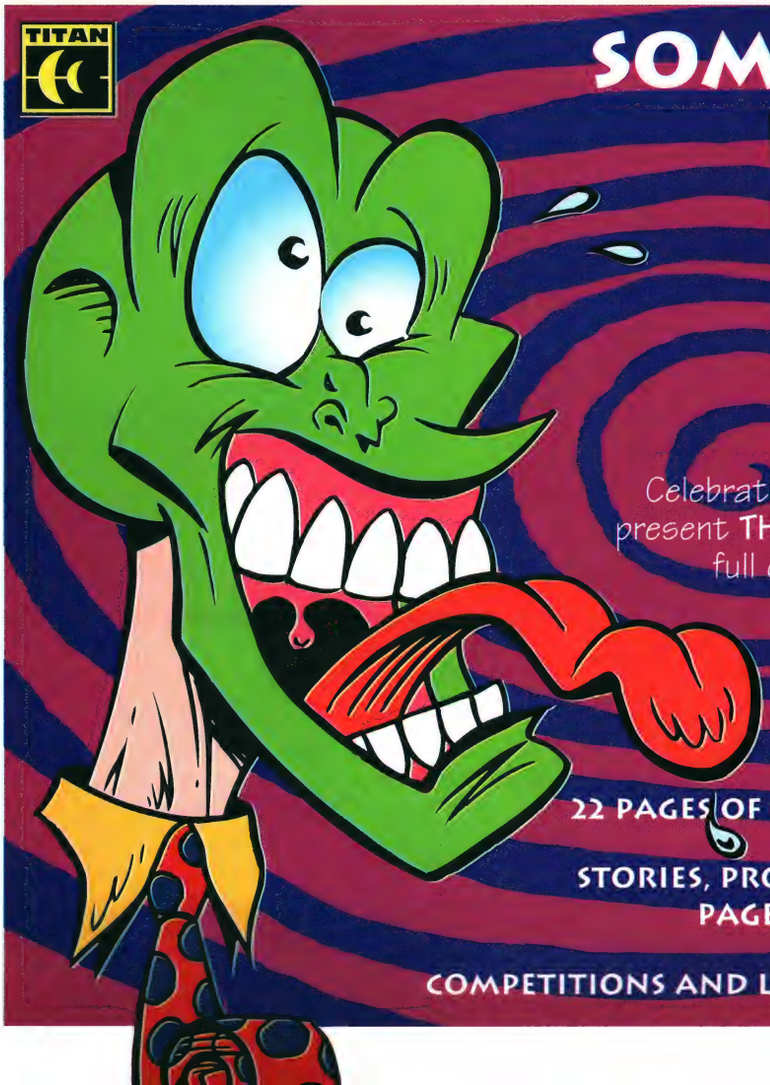
TITAN

SOMEBODY STOP HIM!



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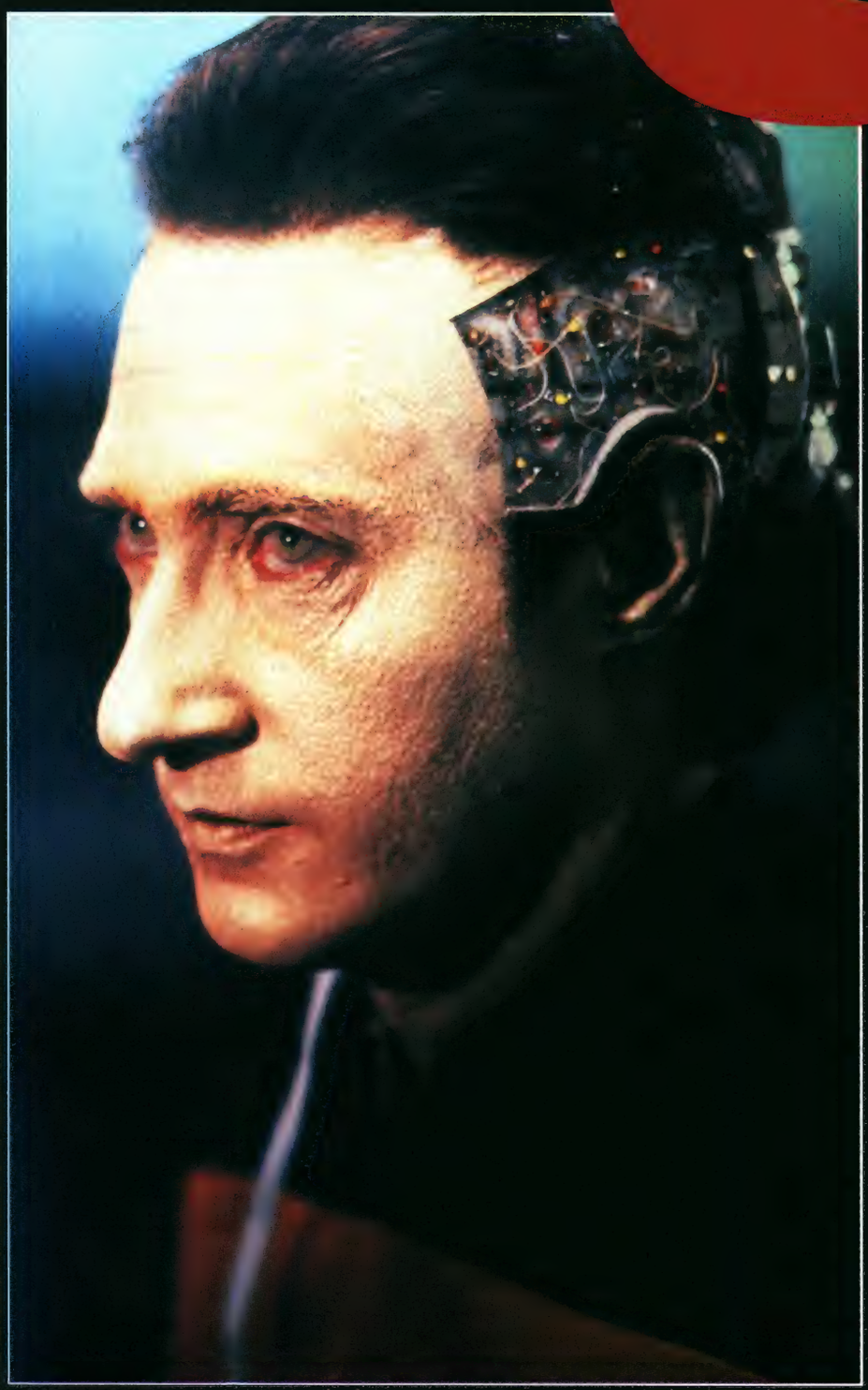
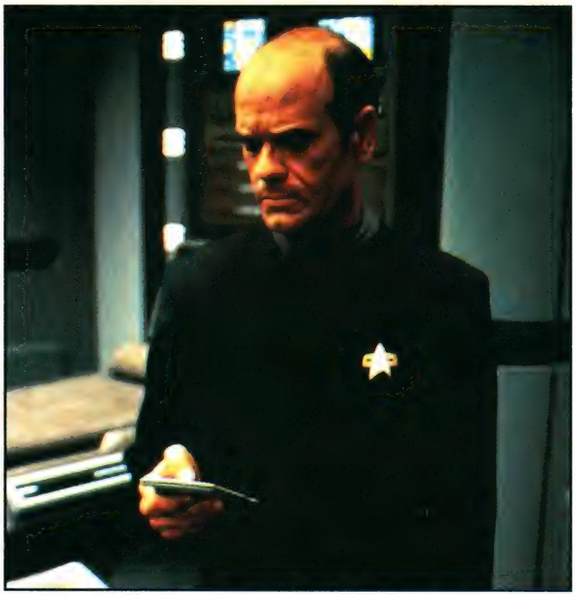


mc

When whatever generation of *Star Trek* engineer begins to talk about exploding transient polarised singularities, a positronic subspace vertron-laced tachyon beam altering the timeline, subspace bubbles and disappearing Starfleets, you know your favourite SF television show is about to throw you neck deep into 'technobabble'. Best described as 24th Century jargon, when it's used well it creates a sense of place about this future universe; used badly, your audience is floundering and wishing the writer had concentrated on the characters and story instead. The show's producers endeavour to ensure the latter is a rare event and, as Marc Shapiro discovered, the science of *Star Trek* is often far more in tune with real science than you might have expected. In fact, some of that on-screen science fiction could be science fact well before the 24th Century...

Star Trek®
SCIENCE NOW

Previous pages:
Left: *Half-life in the 24th Century*
Top right: *23rd Century science... Dr McCoy tries to fathom just what to do with his instrument...*
Centre right: *...the precursor of the floppy disk was in fact a painted bit of wood...*
Bottom right: *...and nobody gave a damn about getting the right messages with someone like Uhura sitting at the comm*
These pages:
Right: *The hand-held Pads and tricorders may fast becoming a reality, but the closest we'll get to a holographic doctor is a non-apparent health service*
Below right: *The Federation flagship* **U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D**



Doctor Richard Green recalls once having read a quote that he feels describes the science postulated on *Star Trek* as it relates to the real world. "The quote was that 'All the really great lies are half true'" reflects the manager of Engineering Process and Information Services for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. "Most of the science of *Star Trek* is either feasible in scientific principal in use today or based on some valid scientific speculation of what scientists think we understand. *Star Trek* is good fiction that contains a not unreasonable factual foundation."

Green, a *Star Trek* fan himself whose scientific credentials include taking part in The Deep Space Network, one of the earliest participants in the SETI program searching for life in outer space, applauds the show's adherence to scientific principals, awarding them an A grade for effort.

"My feeling is that the writers on the show have hired some good scientific consultants to advise them on whether something is feasible or not," he says. These include Dr Robert Forward, well known for his science fiction writings; Dr Robert Bussard, creator of the Bussard ramjet, a means of using interstellar gases as a fuel for spaceships; and Dr Greg Benford, a scientist and writer at the University of California, Irvine. Much of the design work on the *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D* came after conversations between G. Harry Stine, a former White Sands missile engineer, and *Star Trek*'s senior illustrators and technical consultants Rick Sternbach and Michael Okuda. When the *Star Trek* writers are searching for some scientific plot device, or simply explaining some strange event, it's Sternbach and Okuda who provide most of the immediate solutions – and who have done so much to create the illusion of life aboard football stadium-sized starships. Science consultant Andre Bormanis makes up the final part of this process; his background in general science, computer science and screen writing, plus his two years working in Washington for NASA on the space programme, is a significant asset for the show. Bormanis reads scripts through at various stages of development and helps them out both with technical language and by providing science concepts if there is a strong science element.

The acceptance of this part of the script writing process goes as far as writers waving blanks for the triumvirate of advisers to fill in on certain dialogue, identified by the word TECH. Thus, 'We need to sort out the TECH on the TECH' can easily become a throwaway phrase about graviton pulses and their ilk.

Despite the maligned technobabble, "*Star Trek* does a realistic job of portraying scientists and their dealings with technology," Doctor Green says. "There have been some episodes where a scientist or an engineer has come aboard and I've gone 'Oh, come on! Give me a break!' but generally, they seem to take great pains to have these scientists grounded in at least a plausible sense of reality and doing a reasonable job of interpreting the technology.

Turning his attention to some of the more popular elements of the *Star Trek* scientific universe, Green offers his own reasons why these pure speculations do or do not work within the framework of present day science.

The *U.S.S. Enterprise*, like all Starfleet ships, is controlled by a central computer, activated by voice recognisers, brushing touch-sensitive screens or typing on a keyboard. "A variation on the ship's computer, which contains auto pilot and navigational capability, is available today on aeroplanes," says Green. "So if you postulate the notion of roving intergalactic starships, it's not unreasonable that you would incorporate the same kind of automation capabilities into them. On *Star Trek*, people tend to talk into the computers while current computer technology is input by keyboards, but we are going in that direction. It does not seem outlandish to extrapolate on our current capabilities to the point where we could have the capabilities *Star Trek* has. Occasionally you see a *Star Trek* story where the com-

STAR TREK SCIENCE NOW

***Star Trek* may be set in the far future but in actual fact the writers of the show find it extremely difficult to stay four hundred years ahead of today's technology. Here are just a few of the *Star Trek* inventions already being developed in real life...**

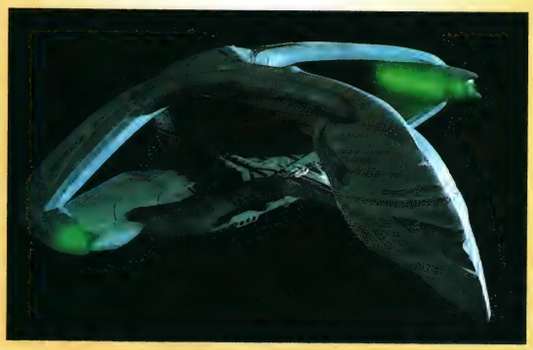
Communicators

Mobile phones are already part of everyday life, for both business and domestic users; but the range of *Star Trek* communicators remains beyond current technology and mobile phones aren't renowned for exploding rock faces, either... ■

STAR TREK SCIENCE NOW

Cloaking devices

The B-2 Stealth Bomber and the F-117A Stealth Fighter are designed to be invisible to radar systems but are visible to the naked eye. An even more advanced plane is rumoured to be being tested by the United States Air Force... ■



puter will know something you know realistically it could not possibly know, but that's pretty rare."

When the show's designers updated the ship's computer for *Star Trek*: *The Next Generation*, they also came up with the PADD, a portable link with the ship's computer for use anywhere on the starship. Here again, science now has caught up with science future. "When Rick first designed the device, my reaction was, 'Shouldn't this have more buttons?'" Okuda told *Wired* magazine, some years ago. "Then, just a few days ago, we saw the Newton (Apple's Personal Digital Assistant), and I said 'Oh – no buttons.'" Now, touch screens are the norm; the program cards of the original *Star Trek* series, often used in quick succession by *Mr Spock* (and actually simple painted blocks of wood) are a thing of the distant past. "We try to keep technology from chasing us down," Sternbach comments. "But the

NEW PLANETS DISCOVERED

Report by Lou Anders

Two new planets in other star systems may have been discovered whose environments might be able to support life. The giant planets, 35 light-years away from Earth, are thought to have surface conditions that would allow the formation of water in liquid form, and therefore, life. This now brings the total number of alien planets so far found beyond our own solar system to four, which were discovered by the detection of 'wobbles' in the motion of stars which are caused by orbiting planets.

"Life is now possible. There is a harbour, a site, on which life might form," Geoffrey Marcy, the San Francisco State University astrophysicist who made the discovery, told *Reuters* after a presentation at the annual meeting of the *American Astronomical Society*.

"We watched *Star Wars*. We watched *Star Trek*.. And (*Star Trek* captain) *Captain Jean-Luc Picard* had no trouble finding planets, but we professionals did," he said. "And now, finally, there's a site for Jean-Luc and for extraterrestrial life."

Marcy, along with fellow researcher Paul Butler, discovered the new planets in the Virgo and Ursa Major constellations. Both are bigger than Jupiter, but not visible to the naked eye. One of the planets is thought to have a surface temperature of 85 degrees Celsius, which is below the boiling point of water.

"That's cool enough to permit complex molecules to exist, ranging from carbon dioxide to complicated organic molecules," Marcy said. "This planet could conceivably have rain or even oceans." These claims may prove spurious since a planet of this size, based on the evidence of our own solar system, is almost certainly a gas giant like Jupiter with no rocky surface on which life could evolve.

The other, at a distance from its sun comparable to that of Earth from its sun, appears to have a region in its atmosphere which would allow liquid water, the scientists reported. The planet, too, is in a solar system that most resembles that of Earth. "It almost smells like the planets in our own solar system," he said.

NASA administrator Daniel Goldin, who spoke at the meeting of the American Astronomical Society at which the findings were announced, stated: "The exciting part is we found the planets where water could exist. And we know on Earth wherever we find water, we find life. That gets minds thinking."

Marcy said that radio astronomers in Puerto Rico and Australia were getting ready to turn their radio telescopes towards the two planets to search for life. "What's possible, of course, is that the radio telescopes will detect radio signals from any civilisations, or advanced life, that might be living on those planets if they use radio technology like we do," Marcy said. "Now our radio astronomy friends can go out and search for life with these known targets in mind."

Of course, even if there is life out there, what actually is the likelihood of us making contact? Renowned astronomer Patrick Moore, speaking on the BBC2 programme *Newsnight* recently, commented: "The chances may be slim, but they are not nil."

NASA astronomer Robert Brown told reporters the space agency could use the Hubble Space Telescope to try to take photographic images because of the planets' relative proximity to Earth.

"Mr and Mrs America and Mr and Mrs World want to know the answer after inheriting the question from pre-history: Is the Earth unique? Are there other habitats for life? NASA is looking at that as the central goal of the agency," Brown said.

Exciting as this may seem, I don't see what the big deal is. We all know it's just Qo'noS and Vulcan. ■

TECHNOBABBLE GONE MAD!

Technobabble, 24th Century jargon, is the stuff some viewers love to hate and some would earnestly love to see better explained. *Star Trek*'s creator Gene Roddenberry and the current producers prefer character development over scientific gobbledygook, but in trying to create the feeling of characters living and working in the future, that technobabble just keeps on coming. Here's some recent examples from the two ongoing shows...

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

In *Civil Defense*, old force field emitters overloaded new ones that shorted out the power grid so *Commander Benjamin Sisko* could direct the overloading fusion reactor into the shields... *Past Tense, Part 2* raised the spectre of that old favourite, Chronitron particles, along with timeline bubbles, electrostatic residue... Loose plasma coils, molecular fractures in a plasma conduit, were problems in *Life Support* and *Doctor Julian Bashir* has some great lines about neurogenic radiation and selective arterial vasoconstriction... In *Visionary*, watch out for Hyronalin, ionising radiation, microcellular scans, low level tachyon emission, Delta series radio isotopes, Bassilar arteries on the brain stem, matter-energy conversion matrix in a replicator, and an isotope decay constant. Incidentally, this is the second time we see a black hole powering a *Romulan* warp drive; the first was in *Star Trek: The Next Generation's Timescape*.

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

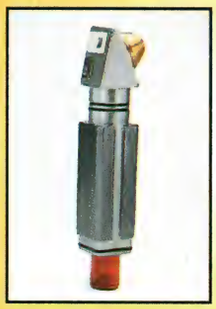
Coherent tetryon beams and a massive mobile displacement wave made up of polarised magnetic variations faced the crew of the *U.S.S. Voyager* in *Caretaker*, while *Parallax* is awash with such things as gravimetric flux densities, singularity event horizons, frozen power grid relays, a subspace tractor beam, time delayed quantum subspace reflections, dechyon beams and a stream of warp particles detecting a subspace gravimetric event horizon distortion fracture..? *Phage* treats us to a cytoplasmic stimulator, holographic lungs and a dilithium matrix power, while *The Cloud*'s shield polarity reversal sounds a bit like a poke at *Doctor Who*'s 'reverse the polarity of the neutron field' to me... still you have to give the actors plenty of credit for pronouncing some of the weird science names, especially in *State of Flux*, where we're treated to a Polaron burst, fluctuating neuclionic patterns, neuclionic radiation, neosaurium composite, Pyrocyte replacement, Kelotane and Orkett's disease. As for the animated suspension of disintegrated biomatter in *Jetrel*, this is when viewers begin to find themselves more than a little adrift in the 24th Century...

PADD is certainly coming into reality faster than we would have liked."

The starship's systems are built from nanocircuitry – tiny circuits with components just a few atoms in size. Alongside these are the nanites, micro–robots 'bred' for specific tasks and seen in *ST:TNG*. These are so far advanced in the 24th Century that they are able, in some instances, to reproduce to collectively form a consciousness. Although nowhere near the level of technology required for nanites, the US Central Intelligence Agency recently revealed that scientists at the Western Reserve University have produced motors so small that 1,000 of them could fit inside a 5mm square. Pentagon scientists are working on a new generation of Microsystems and advances in miniaturisation to create a range of weapons to pinpoint and track enemies, such as artificial weeds or blades of grass with cameras and sensors able to detect tank movement; swarms of small aircraft, with sensors that could detect diesel engine exhausts or take infra red pictures; and ant-sized soldiers, each with a solar panel on its back to power its legs, are under consideration, either as spies or as a means of carrying explosives behind enemy lines to knock out power cables and communication lines. "Many of the underlying technologies that are going to make the systems possible are available now," a Pentagon official recently told *The Sunday Times*. "It's not science fiction."

However, androids like *Lt. Commander Data* and those seen in episodes such as *Mudd's Women*, are a bit of a stretch. "You can get into a debate real fast in the scientific community when you bring up androids, depending on what you think" says Doctor Green. "Some people believe

STAR TREK SCIENCE NOW



Hyposprays

The Powderject™ is a hypodermic syringe similar in principle to the hypospray. This device makes it easier for patients to administer their own drugs such as insulin (used by diabetics). It also reduces risk of infection. ■

there's a divine inspiration behind us and that there's such a thing as a soul. Others believe we're just elaborate mechanisms and, in that sense, we are all androids.

"If you take the view that Humans follow the fundamental laws of physics, then there's nothing to say that an android, as envisioned by *Star Trek*, can't be accurate. Now, does mankind at this point have the knowledge to build an android? Absolutely not. Could he in the future? There is no work being done today in a direct sense, but there is a lot of work being done today in mapping the Human gene. We are so close to being able to manipulate and design genetic material. Once we can do that, we will get into questions of what we really are and (what) creation (might be).

"There is nothing in the current laws of physics that says, sometime in the future, we couldn't possibly build a Data."

What about alien life as depicted by the show? Here, Green is more critical but remains optimistic. "there is absolutely no data on which to speculate whether aliens as depicted on *Star Trek* are realistic or unrealistic. 'Are we the only life forms in the universe?' might be a more interesting question. If faster than light travel is truly possible and the universe is populated by vast civilisations, why haven't aliens made themselves evident to us? One answer might be that because of the immensity of the universe even the most advanced civilisations might take 100 years to get to us."

As for Human/alien hybrids like Mr Spock or *Deanna Troi*, Green doesn't hold out high hopes. "If alien life forms evolve separately but, like Humans, as hydro carbon based beings, it would seem a pretty big stretch that two species, very independent, could be mutually cross-fertile. Scientists are still learning about DNA structure, however, and if the universe is as big a place as we think it is then the probability of one of these alien life forms being fertile is not zero. A Mr Spock is something you can't rule out."

Okay, so the aliens haven't come to us – yet. Can we get to them? How feasible is *Star Trek*'s warp drive? Bad news here: "This isn't likely," says Green. "It boils down to the fact that scientific experiments and theories have proven that nothing can travel faster then light, including starships." Is there any way around this barrier? Over at the California Institute of Technology, also in Pasadena, Kip Thorne and Michael Morris postulated the idea of wormholes in space as far back as 1988, in response to a request from Carl Sagan for a means of FTL travel for his SF novel *Contact*. Other quantum scientists (quantum theory being the 'laws' of the sub atomic world) have also conjectured that space could already be riddled with quantum-sized wormholes. Even if it isn't, space scientist Claudio Maccone from Turin, Italy, last year suggested a magnetic field might be a means of warping space to create wormholes, supported by Einstein's Theory of General Relativity which states that anything that contains energy, including a magnetic field, warps space. It could be that the wormhole seen in *ST:DS9* hints at the method by which advanced civilisations are already traversing space and if they are, then such 'space warps' could be detectable.

Talking about sub space communications, Green says: "We've heard of wormholes and some equations would appear to allow information to travel from one black hole to another. Whether that theory is harnessable at this point is a real mind stretch. Based on known science, sub space communication is probably not possible, but not absolutely out of the question."

Despite the current impossibility of warp drive, however, matter-antimatter power generation isn't such a far-fetched notion. "In principal, this is actually quite feasible," says Green. "There was recently a scientific breakthrough in which the first anti-hydrogen atom was discovered [see *STAR TREK Monthly* Issue 13]. The big problem with the concept of antimatter is that, as soon as it touches matter, it annihilates itself, so the big question is, how would a starship confine and contain antimatter as a fuel source? Some of the original *Star Trek* scripts had Scotty messing with something in the engine room and 'getting back on line' was always a big deal. The impression in these shows was that the antimatter was being confined by some force field or electromagnetic field.

"Today, there is little in the way of a

STAR TREK SCIENCE NOW

PADDs

Apple have recently re-launched their Apple Newton Message Pads incorporating touch screens and capable of recognising the user's unique hand-writing style ■

Phasers

The laws of energy notwithstanding, lasers are used for many purposes today, including microsurgery and etching metals. Laser weapons remain beyond the realms of current science but laser-guided weaponry is already in production. ■

Far left: *For the non-politically correct among us – Harry Mudd's idea of heaven – a veritable army of beautiful android women*
Left: *Would inter-species breeding be possible? Certain less reputable magazines seem to think that it's going on all the time!*

STAR TREK SCIENCE NOW

Ion Drive/Impulse engines

A new light-weight 220lb spacecraft launches in 1998 using 'ion drive'; a high velocity stream of xenon gas ionised by electricity produced by solar arrays will propel the ship on a fly-by mission past a comet and an asteroid. ■

Voice recognition

Computers can already be programmed to recognise users' voices; in fact the *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* Voice Print software has stretched this technology even further than other commercial applications. ■

clue as to how we would actually control antimatter as a fuel source, but *Star Trek* is not violating any law of physics as we understand them today."

Impulse engines aren't beyond the bounds of possibility, either. "A rocket engine based on a fusion reaction is quite reasonable by today's scientific standards," Green comments. "All you need is a source of heat so you can accelerate mass to a very high velocity. If you postulate that the starships have a matter-antimatter power source, then impulse engines are quite reasonable."

So, you've got your engines, you have your starship – albeit *sans* warp drive, for now – but how do you go about finding any life that's out there? It's here that *Star Trek* begins to become true science fiction, despite continuing technological advances. Of sensors and tricorders Green says "I wish we had them! Clearly, the idea of remote sensing and observing is an interesting one. Whether *Star Trek* uses these tools properly is an even bigger one. You've seen those episodes where the starship is a long way from a planet and they'll turn on this computer and suddenly know life is there. Are they using those items accurately on the show? No. I think they are letting themselves run away with their own idea. The scientific community is not working on anything like the hand-held sensors you see on the show, but we're getting close to that concept with things like Micropower Impulse Radar machines in hospitals. So you could say that science is laying some of the foundations for these things." (Since this interview, it's been revealed that engineers at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, California, are now advance testing MIR as a medical diagnostic tool to measure signs of Human life from a distance, much like a medical Tricorder. The silicon chip-based radar is so sensitive it could monitor a baby's breathing to cut down on cot deaths or pinpoint heartbeats in collapsed buildings. The Canadian company *Vital Technologies* have recently brought out the Mark 1 working tricorder, but this does have limited capacity.

Green is similarly dismissive of deflector beams, tractor beams and artificial gravity, although Kip Thorne showed that quantum theory allows for the existence of antigravity forces back in 1985. Generating them on demand is the problem. "We know of no way to do that," says Green. "The main reason appears to be that there are only four fundamental forces in the universe: gravity, electromagnetic forces and the two forces that have to do with the atom. In regards to deflector and tractor beams, the *Star Trek* writers seem to have postulated additional forces of whose existence there is, to this day, no evidence."

"When it comes to this type of stuff, *Star Trek* is dealing with total speculation, not taking real science into consideration. There have been scientific investigations into additional forces and so far everybody has come up empty."

Star Trek weaponry is also still beyond 20th Century

This page:
Above right: *Perhaps the most well-known piece of* Star Trek *science: the Transporter*
Below left: *The destructive power of the phaser*
Below right: *Demonstrating the need for artificial gravity is this unfortunate Klingon from* STVI:TUC
Opposite page:
Left: *Virtual Reality on a grand scale: the holodeck*

COSMIC QUIRKS

Star Trek astronomy takes its lead from the real world

One of the things which is most worthy of note about *Star Trek* is the fact that it attempts to extrapolate from real science. Phenomena have made guest appearances in the original series and in its ensuing spin-offs. For example, an X-ray binary star is investigated during *Star Trek: The Next Generation* episode *Evolution*. The close-up of the solar surface in *Redemption, Part II* is also quite accurate, when compared with photographs!

In the mid-Sixties, the astronomical community was stunned and puzzled by objects which were dubbed quasars. Controversy raged because these objects appeared to be stars but closer analysis revealed that their true nature must be more ambiguous. Ever responsive to the latest ideas, *Star Trek* included an episode called *The Galileo Seven* in which Mr Spock and his team investigate the Murusaki effect, in an attempt to understand the quasar-like phenomenon. During the decades since that episode, astronomical study has shown that quasars are vastly distant celestial objects, way beyond our galaxy (so the shuttlecraft could not have reached the quasar, but never mind...)

In the *ST:TNG* episode *Data's Day*, mention is made that the 'long-range' sensors are now monitoring the Murusaki Quasar, to maintain the continuity! ■

Stuart Clark

science. "The concept of Phasers is kind of hard to imagine. If you destroy that much matter with a Phaser, the energy has to go somewhere, and yet it does not appear to. It all seems pretty unrealistic but, on the other hand, they may have found those additional forces and discovered a way to disrupt the way atoms are bound together and make the person or mass fall apart. Right now, it's not realistic based on what we know."

Which brings us neatly to one of *Star Trek*'s greatest time-saving plot devices – the transporter, first created to save on expensive model work in the original series and get the show's characters straight into the centre of the action in the first few minutes of an episode. "Transporters are not really feasible at this point because of what we call the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle – you can only know inaccuracy and knowledge of a particle times the inaccuracy and knowledge of its velocity divided by the mass equals its constant. For a transporter to work, that principle would have to be incorrect under certain circumstances and there's no evidence of that. Einstein spent the last 30 years of his life trying to prove the principle wrong and could not lay a glove on it. To do what transporters on *Star Trek* can do would take a tremendous amount of energy."

Despite the barriers to transporter technology today, however, scientists are working on the problem. In the meantime, the magazine *Focus* recently reported that scientists at Stanford University in the US scanned a six inch plastic three-dimensional object and converted the information into binary code, then modemed that information across California to a remote location where it was used to create a three-dimensional facsimile. While this isn't quite the same as beaming an original object across space, it's as close as we can get in 1996!

Holodecks are also something we've almost achieved by another route. "We already have very realistic aircraft simulators," says Green. "It would be a piece of cake to create a *virtual reality* Holodeck based on today's technology. In fact, that's one of the more feasible things that *Star Trek* does." Universal translators are also not so far away, although translating alien languages might still prove difficult. "There are programs today that don't even bother with artificial intelligence that are fairly good at translating one language to another. In theory, we can already do what *Star Trek* does and, in the future, it is highly probable that we will be able to create a sound to English language translating machine."

Surprisingly, perhaps one of the most intriguing *Star Trek* notions – time travel – is one of the things 20th Century science could be closer to cracking than anything else on the show we haven't already started working on. "There is a theory about electrons and anti-electrons colliding and leaving a hole in time," says Green. "It would appear that it would be possible but then you would run into the problems of causality. What happens if you go back in time and change history? Then you run into the possibility of multiple versions of reality, which gets pretty far out. It's not really possible, but then scientists do like to be surprised!" And scientists do like *Star Trek*, according to Green. "People at NASA and JPL do watch the show and they tend to like it. And the reason is that *Star Trek* does seem to do a conscientious job when it comes to science." ■

***STAR TREK Monthly* interviews Rick Sternbach next month about his new *Star Trek* blueprints. Watch out for further features on *Star Trek* science in future issues.**

FURTHER READING

Magazines

New Scientist is a particularly fine weekly science magazine for those of you interested in keeping up-to-date on all aspects of scientific development. The magazine also has a web site at http://www.newscientist.com.
Other magazines to sample are *Focus* and *Scientific American*

Books

Black holes and time warps: Einstein's outrageous legacy by Kip Thorne (*Picador*, 1994).
The Star Trek: The Next Generation Technical Manual by Michael Okuda and Rick Sternbach.
The Physics of Star Trek by Lawrence Krauss

Multimedia

The Star Trek: The Next Generation Technical Manual by Michael Okuda and Rick Sternbach.
The Star Trek Omnipedia by Michael and Denise Okuda.
Grolier Science Fiction – The Multimedia Encyclopedia of Science Fiction

Web Sites

***Paramount Pictures'* own *Star Trek* pages**: go to **http://www.paramount.com** for more on *Star Trek: Voyager*. The launch of the Microsoft Network *Star Trek* site could not be confirmed at press time.
NASA has its own web page on the science of *Star Trek*, written by David Allen Batchelor, PhD: the organisation's hub site is at http://www.nasa.gov.
To find *Star Trek* fans' world-wide discussions on all *Star Trek* science, go to http://www.spectra.net~vader/tech/techno.html

STAR TREK®

STAR TREK®
THE NEXT GENERATION™

CONVERGENCE
PART SIX

The 23rd Century: *Captain James T. Kirk* and the crew of the *U.S.S. Enterprise* are stunned by the sudden arrival and subsequent death of *Gary Seven*, a time-travelling agent of the mysterious group, AEGIS. The alien assassin also kidnaps *Mr Spock* – the Starfleet crew are powerless to stop it.

Spock finds himself trapped in a force bubble alongside a *Romulan* from the past – kidnapped at a point in time when Earth and Romulus were about to sign a peace treaty – and *Captain Harriman* from the *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-B*, from Spock's future. Meanwhile, aboard the *U.S.S. Enterprise*, another agent of AEGIS arrives. *Exana* explains that an alien race, who she cannot name, are seeking to manipulate the course of history by removing pivotal figures from the timeline and changing it to their own ends – and Gary Seven and she set out to stop them, against the wishes of their 'patrons'.

The 24th Century: the *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D* rendezvous with the son of *Sarek*, special envoy *Sybok*, on a mission within the Romulan empire to secure peace. *Guinan* senses something is badly wrong with events, but before she can voice her fears to *Captain Jean-Luc Picard*, a *Devidian* appears and kidnaps *Data*.

As Guinan senses the time-stream changing with every passing moment, Picard, agonising over the situation which may bring about the extinction of an alien race simply trying to survive, orders the *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D* to the *Devidian* system at maximum warp. Even as they beam down to the fourth planet, the changes to the time stream accelerate at a frightening pace.

Finding Mr Spock and other missing persons from history trapped in a force bubble prison, the crews of both starships become embroiled in a time-displaced battle with the Devidians... who seem out-matched when the crew of the *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D* join the foray!

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SAM de la ROSA
Inker

RICK TAYLOR
Colourist

KEN SAVE
Penciller

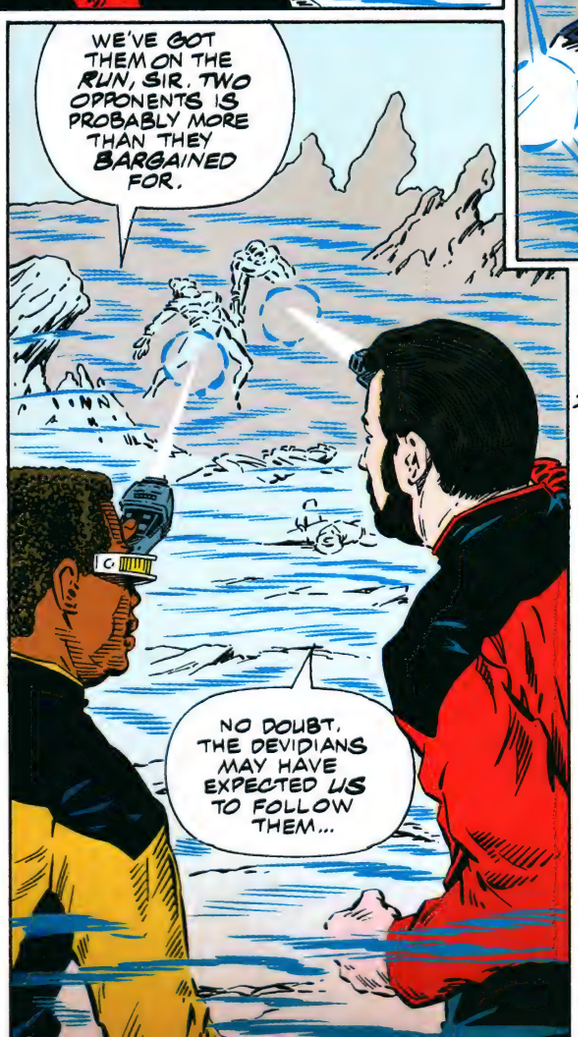
CHRISTOPHER ELIOPOULOS
Letterer

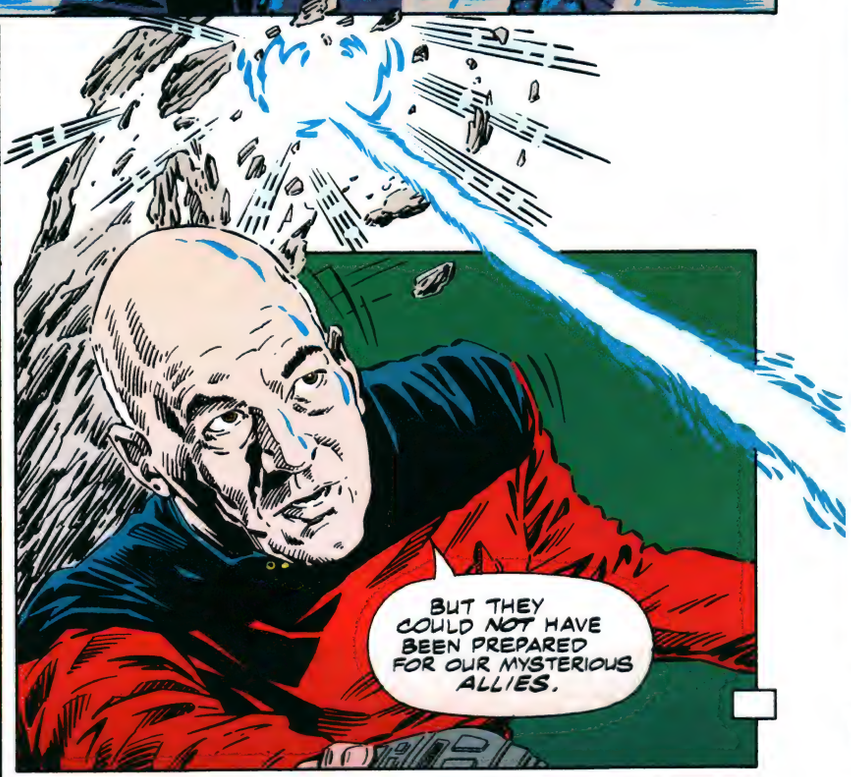
MARGARET CLARK
Editor

THE ODDS ARE A LITTLE MORE EVEN NOW, SIR.
THE ADVANTAGE OF SURPRISE GOES A LONG WAY, COMMANDER.

DON'T LET UP, WORF!
I HAD NO INTENTION OF LETTING UP!

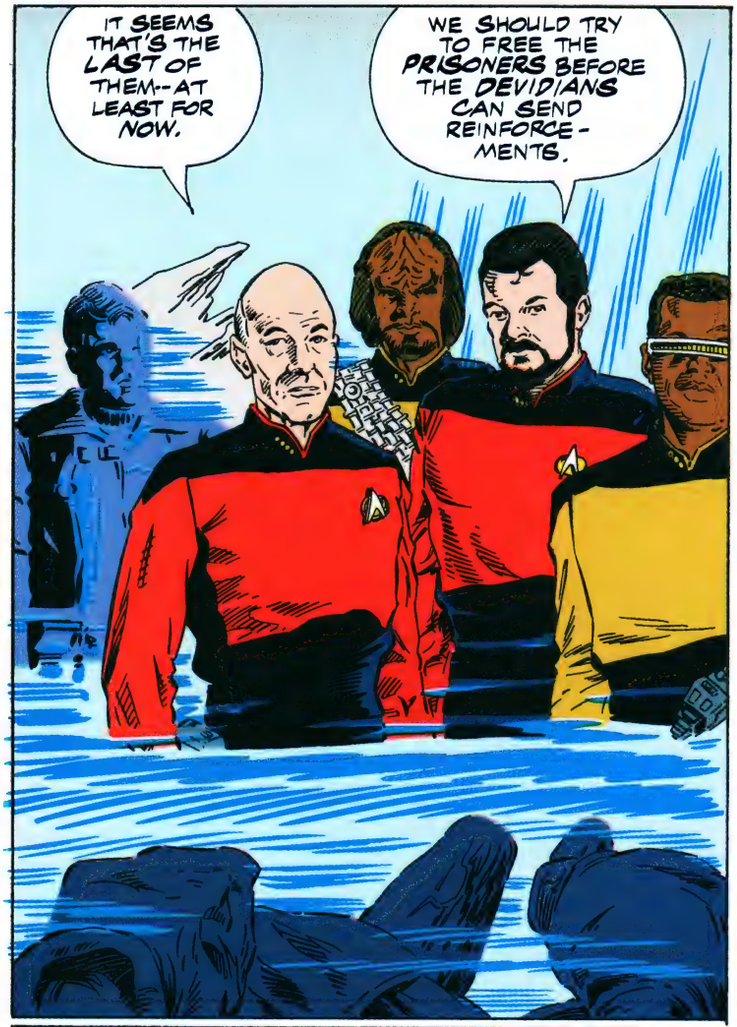
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE RAISED THEIR SPIRITS, COUNSELOR.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'VE DONE.


WE'VE GOT THEM ON THE RUN, SIR. TWO OPPONENTS IS PROBABLY MORE THAN THEY BARGAINED FOR.
NO DOUBT, THE DEVIDIANS MAY HAVE EXPECTED US TO FOLLOW THEM...


BUT THEY COULD NOT HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR OUR MYSTERIOUS ALLIES.

DEANNA...?
DEANNA!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT. YOU'VE GOT TO BE...
I'M ALL RIGHT NOW, WILL.
DEANNA... THANK GOD!
I WANT A LOOK AT HER, WILL.
GO AHEAD, DOCTOR. WE HAVE THE UPPER HAND NOW...

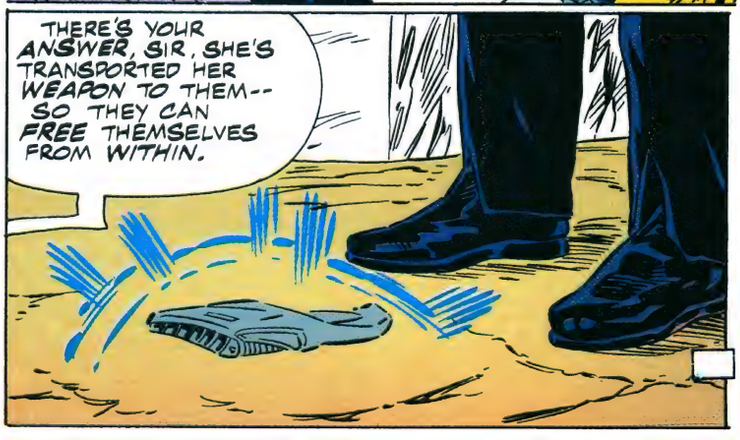
AND SOON WE WILL HAVE THE ONLY HAND!
KRAAK
KRAAK
ZRAAK
ZRAAK
ZRAAK


IT SEEMS THAT'S THE LAST OF THEM--AT LEAST FOR NOW.
WE SHOULD TRY TO FREE THE PRISONERS BEFORE THE DEVIDIANS CAN SEND REINFORCE-MENTS.

AN INTERESTING ASSORTMENT OF PERSONALITIES THE DEVIDIANS HAVE GATHERED HERE.
AN OLDER VERSION OF GOWRON ... A YOUNGER VERSION OF AMBASSA-DOR SPOCK...
AND UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, THE MAN IN THE CAPTAIN'S UNIFORM IS HARRIMAN FROM THE ENTERPRISE B.

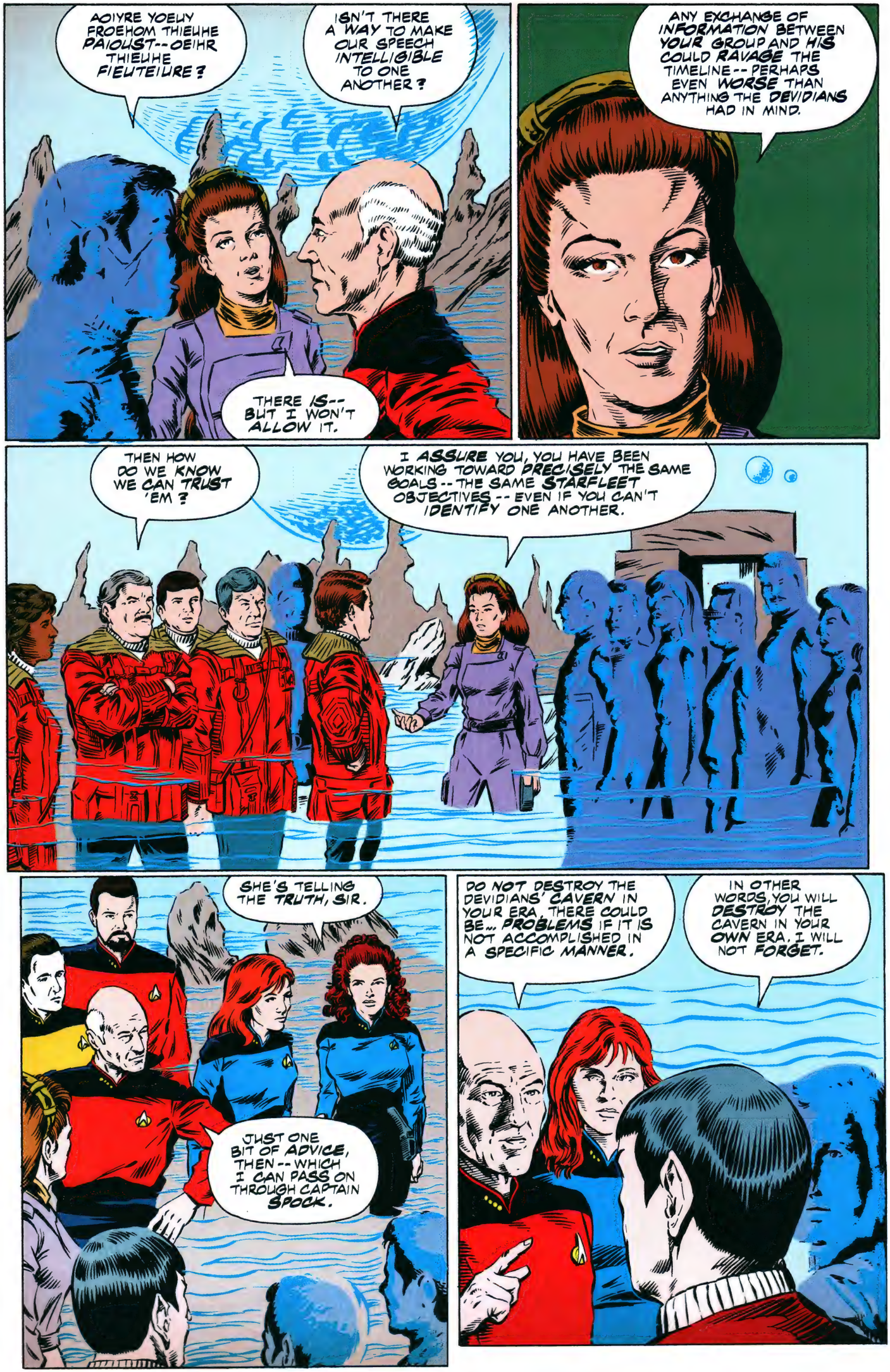
WE'RE GOING TO TRY TO PENETRATE THE BUBBLE. IF YOU WOULD STAND BACK...
NO, CAPTAIN. ANY OUTSIDE FORCE WILL CAUSE OUR PRISON TO IMPLODE.

HOUILYDT OUIEN AUIA MOUAMEYNT...
WHAT'S SHE DOING, COMMANDER?
I'M NOT SURE, SIR.


THERE'S YOUR ANSWER, SIR. SHE'S TRANSPORTED HER WEAPON TO THEM-- SO THEY CAN FREE THEMSELVES FROM WITHIN.

STAND BACK, PLEASE.
ZEEEEE!
GOOD. NOW THAT WE ARE FREE, I DEMAND TO BE RETURNED TO MY RIGHTFUL PLACE AND TIME.
NOT A BAD IDEA. I THINK I CAN DO IT, TOO-- GIVEN A COUPLE OF YEARS TO WORK ON IT.
PERHAPS I MAY BE OF SERVICE.
MY NAME IS EXANA. I AM AN AGENT OF THE AEGIS.
THE AEGIS... YES, I'VE HEARD OF YOU. YOU'VE BEEN MENTIONED IN SEVERAL SHIPS' LOGS OVER THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS.
ARE YOU SAYING YOU CAN SEND THESE PEOPLE BACK TO THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACES IN TIME?

I CAN INDEED. AND THE FIRST STEP IN THE PROCESS IS TO MAKE SURE THESE CAPTIVES REMEMBER NOTHING OF THEIR EXPERIENCES TO THIS POINT.
NOT EVEN THE ANDROID.
THAT WAY, THE TIMELINE CAN BE RESTORED WITHOUT ABERRATION.
NOW I CAN OPEN PORTALS TO THE RESPECTIVE ERAS OF GOWRON, TELLIUS AND HARRIMAN. TO RETURN TO THEIR POINTS OF ORIGIN, ALL THEY NEED DO...
IS STEP THROUGH THEM.
NOT THAT I'M UNGRATEFUL FOR THE WAY HOME... BUT WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE, EXACTLY ?
A GOOD QUESTION.
TOO GOOD A QUESTION.


AOIYRE YOELY FROEHOM THIEUHE PAIOUST--OEIHR THIEUHE FIEUTEIURE?
ISN'T THERE A WAY TO MAKE OUR SPEECH INTELLIGIBLE TO ONE ANOTHER?
THERE IS-- BUT I WON'T ALLOW IT.
ANY EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN YOUR GROUP AND HIS COULD RAVAGE THE TIMELINE -- PERHAPS EVEN WORSE THAN ANYTHING THE DEVIDIANS HAD IN MIND.
THEN HOW DO WE KNOW WE CAN TRUST 'EM?
I ASSURE YOU, YOU HAVE BEEN WORKING TOWARD PRECISELY THE SAME GOALS -- THE SAME STARFLEET OBJECTIVES -- EVEN IF YOU CAN'T IDENTIFY ONE ANOTHER.
SHE'S TELLING THE TRUTH, SIR.
JUST ONE BIT OF ADVICE, THEN -- WHICH I CAN PASS ON THROUGH CAPTAIN SPOCK.
DO NOT DESTROY THE DEVIDIANS' CAVERN IN YOUR ERA. THERE COULD BE... PROBLEMS IF IT IS NOT ACCOMPLISHED IN A SPECIFIC MANNER.
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU WILL DESTROY THE CAVERN IN YOUR OWN ERA. I WILL NOT FORGET.

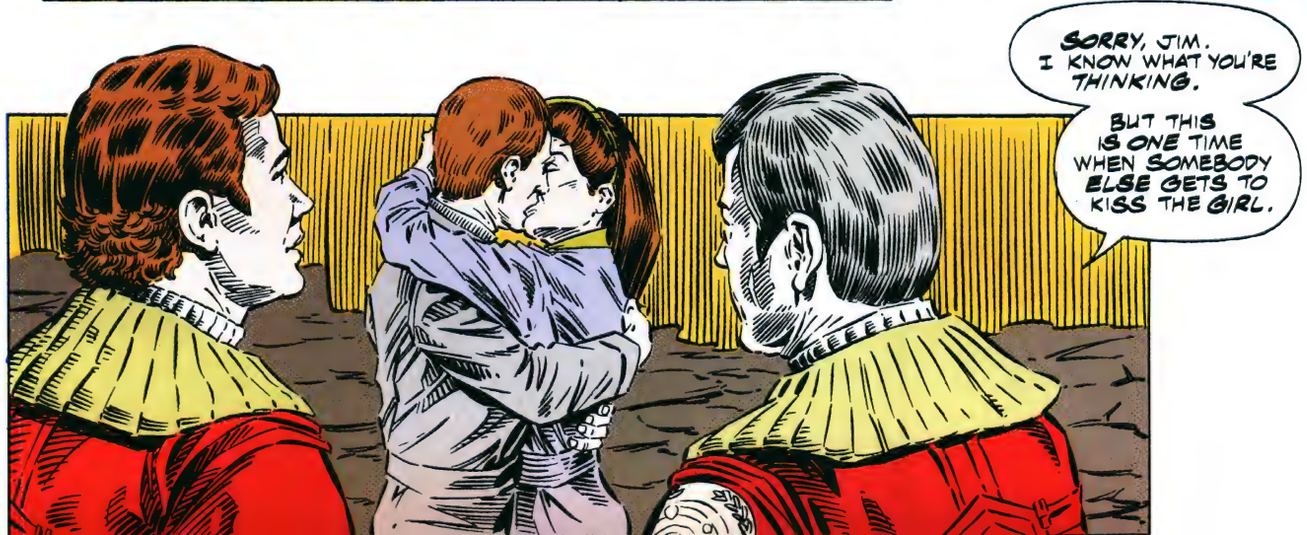
DO NOT ATTEMPT TO *LEAVE* THIS TIME AND *PLACE*, EXANA. AS YOU KNOW, WE CAN *FOLLOW* YOU -- WHEREVER AND *WHENEVER* YOU GO.
UH OH...
UNLESS I'M *MISTAKEN*, THESE BEINGS CONSTITUTE THE *AEGIS*...
OR *PART* OF IT, ANYWAY.
AND THEY DON'T SEEM AT ALL *PLEASED* WITH *EXANA*.
THAT MAY BE AN *UNDERSTATEMENT*, DOCTOR.

YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES.
WHO ARE YOU TO SPEAK SO TO THE AEGIS?
ALL EXANA DID WAS TRY TO PRESERVE THE TIMELINE AGAINST THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE CORRUPTED IT.
YOU HAVE NO BUSINESS PUNISHING EXANA. HER MOTIVES WERE PURE.
IF NOT FOR HER, THE DEVIDIANS WOULD HAVE TWISTED THE TIMELINE INTO SOMETHING UNRECOGNIZABLE.
PUNISH EXANA?
THAT WAS NOT OUR PURPOSE IN COMING HERE. FAR FROM IT.
WE CAME TO TELL EXANA THAT WE HAVE SEEN THE ERROR OF OUR WAYS. THAT WE WERE WRONG.

GARY... ?

HE'S ALIVE!
MUCH TO SOMEONE'S DELIGHT.

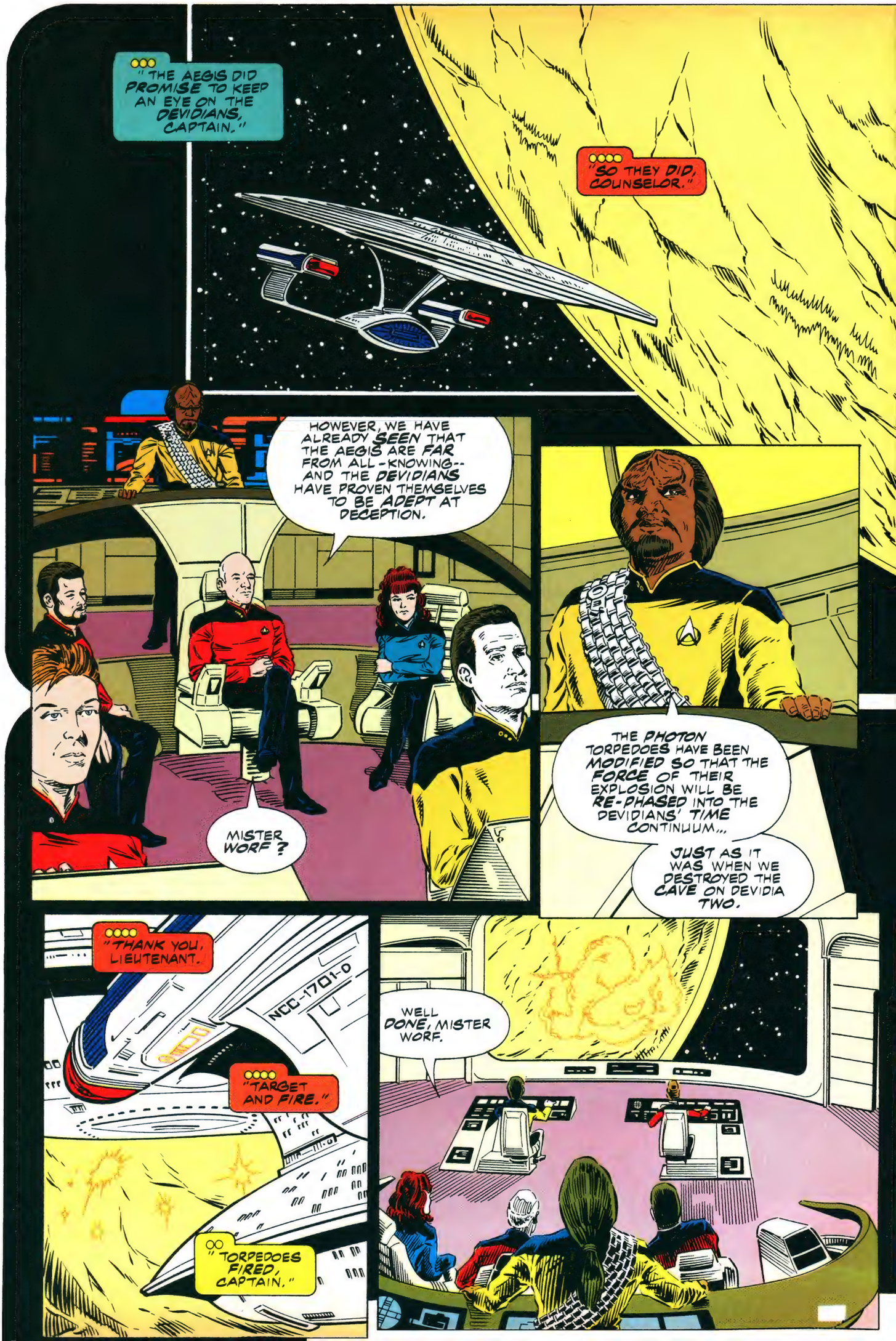
YOU SEE? I TOLD YOU THERE WAS MORE BETWEEN THOSE TWO THAN SIMPLE CAMARADERIE.
AND IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE RIGHT, BONES.


SORRY, JIM. I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.
BUT THIS IS ONE TIME WHEN SOMEBODY ELSE GETS TO KISS THE GIRL.

AFTER WE RECONSIDERED OUR POSITION, WE REMOVED GARY SEVEN FROM THE TIME-STREAM... JUST PRIOR TO THE MOMENT OF HIS DEATH.
"SO EVEN THOUGH HE WAS STILL ATTACKED BY HIS DEVIDIAN ABDUCTOR...
"HE WILL NOW HAVE SURVIVED THE ATTACK."
WHAT IS MORE, WE INTEND TO KEEP A WATCHFUL EYE ON THE DEVIDIANS.
WE WERE WRONG TO ALLOW THEM SUCH LATITUDE IN THEIR TEMPORAL MACHINATIONS.
THEY WILL NOT HAVE A SECOND OPPORTUNITY TO TAMPER WITH THE TIMESTREAM.

NOW IT IS TIME TO RETURN YOU TO YOUR RESPECTIVE ERAS.
THAT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL.
INDEED.
I WOULDN'T MIND FINDING MYSELF IN FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS AGAIN. HOW ABOUT YOU, BONES?
THAT LITTLE CABARET ON DENEB FOUR WOULDN'T BE BAD EITHER... BUT I'LL SETTLE FOR THE ENTERPRISE.
VERY WELL, THEN. KNOW THAT THE AEGIS...
ARE IN YOUR DEBT.
CAPTAIN'S LOG
SUPPLEMENTAL. THERE'S A LOT TO BE SAID FOR OMNIPOTENCE...

CAPTAIN'S LOG
CAPTAIN JAMES T. KIRK
RECORDING:
STARDATE 8854.3
OR SOMETHING APPROXIMATING IT, ANYWAY.
ON THE OTHER HAND, IT SEEMS EVEN THE AEGIS AREN'T SO HIGH AND MIGHTY THEY CAN'T LEARN A FEW THINGS FROM MERE MORTALS.
END LOG ENTRY.
YOU KNOW... IT'D BE NICE TO HAVE THE AEGIS' POWERS, TO BE ABLE TO UNDO WHATEVER WE DIDN'T LIKE ABOUT OUR LIVES.
WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE, SPOCK?
I DO NOT BELIEVE I WOULD CHANGE ANYTHING.
WE ARE, AFTER ALL, THE SUM OF OUR EXPERIENCES. TO ALTER THAT SUM WOULD BE TO ALTER WHO WE ARE.
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I'D CHANGE -- AND YOU CAN GUESS WHO THAT WOULD BE.
INDEED, DOCTOR.
"DON'T FORGET, BONES -- YOU VOLUNTEERED TO GO AFTER SPOCK."
"AN ERROR IN JUDGMENT, I ASSURE YOU -- AND ONE I'M ALREADY BEGINNING TO REGRET..."


"THE AEGIS DID PROMISE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE DEVIDIANS, CAPTAIN."
"SO THEY DID, COUNSELOR."
HOWEVER, WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN THAT THE AEGIS ARE FAR FROM ALL-KNOWING-- AND THE DEVIDIANS HAVE PROVEN THEMSELVES TO BE ADEPT AT DECEPTION.
MISTER WORF?
THE PHOTON TORPEDOES HAVE BEEN MODIFIED SO THAT THE FORCE OF THEIR EXPLOSION WILL BE RE-PHASED INTO THE DEVIDIANS' TIME CONTINUUM...
JUST AS IT WAS WHEN WE DESTROYED THE CAVE ON DEVIDIA TWO.
"THANK YOU, LIEUTENANT.
NCC-1701-D
"TARGET AND FIRE."
"TORPEDOES FIRED, CAPTAIN."
WELL DONE, MISTER WORF.

UNFORTUNATELY, WHILE I REMEMBER WHAT TOOK PLACE IN THE DEVIDIANS' LIMBO, I HAVE NO RECOLLECTION OF WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE WE WERE.
YOU MEAN... WE MAY HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT BECAUSE OF THE CHANGES MADE IN THE TIMESTREAM?
PRECISELY, NUMBER ONE, AND I FIND MYSELF WONDERING WHAT WE MIGHT HAVE LOST BY RETURNING TO OUR OWN PLACE AND TIME.
I GUESS THAT FALLS UNDER THE HEADING OF "WHAT WE DON'T KNOW WON'T HURT US."
STILL... IT DOES MAKE ONE WONDER...
MISTER DATA... DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING AT ALL FROM YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR FELLOW PRISONERS?
NOTHING SPECIFIC, SIR. EXANA'S MEMORY WIPE SEEMED TO WORK AS WELL ON ME AS IT DID ON THE OTHERS.
HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE THING... AN IMPRESSION, REALLY, MORE THAN A MEMORY.
AND WHAT IS THAT?
IT SEEMS TO ME AMBASSADOR SPOCK WAS JUST AS IMPRESSIVE SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO AS HE IS TODAY.
THE END.

A Fistful of Data

If you would like to contribute please send your letters to: A Fistful of Data, *STAR TREK Monthly*, *Titan Magazines*, 42-44 Dolben Street, London SE1 OUP. Now to your questions....

Peter Mitchell from Chester in Cheshire has written in about the rudiments of warp travel, as discussed in Issue 11. He points out that warp speed depends not only on the strength of a starship's warp bubble, as I suggested in that issue, but also on the ship's speed within the bubble. However, it's never been clarified on screen upon which element warp speed is based.

Q Why do *U.S.S. Voyager's* warp nacelles tilt up before it enters warp drive?
(Darrem Wilson, Buckley, Clwyd)

A As featured in Issue 14, we noted that the *U.S.S. Voyager* employs a more advanced warp drive system, enabling it to exceed the warp speed limit, imposed in the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* episode *Force of Nature* without polluting the space continuum.

We'll find out more when the *Star Trek: Voyager Technical Manual* is published in 1997, but my thinking is that the most efficient position for the nacelles differs according to whether the *U.S.S. Voyager* is under warp or impulse power. After all, the ship is operating in quite different conditions in both situations, with very different demands being placed upon the nacelles in each.

Before I move on, it is interesting to note that the *U.S.S. Defiant's* warp nacelles also move when it goes into warp.

Q In *Encounter at Farpoint* and from the sixth season onwards, *Deanna Troi* wears a blue uniform, but she doesn't in the rest of *ST:TNG*. Why?
(Seth Glossop, No Address given)

A *All Good Things* showed that *Encounter at Farpoint* took place very soon after *Captain Jean-Luc Picard* arrived on board the *U.S.S. Enterprise*. Therefore, Deanna wouldn't have had time to find out his preferred dress-code. The non-regulation uniform must have appealed to him though, perhaps because the crew's emotional well-being, rather than command, was her chief remit. As for her return to full uniform, it may be that Deanna's aspirations to become a full bridge officer – as borne out in season seven's *Thine own Self* - persuaded her to continue to wear it after *Chain of Command*.

Behind the scenes, the reason for Sirtis' switch from the 'cosmic cheerleader' outfit of the pilot was the costume's lack of elegance. At one point, the producers did consider combining 'the bun with the scant', before they decided on the jump-suit. When Sirtis first began wearing the full uniform in season six, only one costume was made. This caused problems when, during filming, one of the bar-tenders in Ten-Forward accidentally poured a drink down her front!

Q When they say, 'Set course 192 mark 4', what does the 'mark' stand for?
(Paul Graves, Grimsby, Humberside)

A This is actually a naval term which the *Star Trek* producers adopted. The theory behind it is partially explained in *Datalore*, when the crew are explaining the helm control to *Lore*. If you imagine a starship can move both up and down, the captain has to differentiate between the vertical and horizontal trajectories in which he wants to travel. Therefore, the first set of numbers depicts the horizontal and the second set the vertical directions, with 'mark' separating them both.

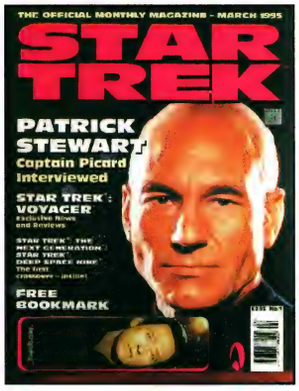
The theory gets more complicated than this though, for it is necessary to ask what these headings take as 0. In fact they can take one of two things: they can either be a 'relative bearing' or an 'absolute heading'. The former depends on the direction in which the ship is going originally, so that if the con was asked to fly directly back the way he came, the course heading would be 180 mark 0. In contrast, the 'absolute heading' is related to the centre of the galaxy. In this case, a straight line from the ship to the galaxy's centre would represent 0, with all headings being based on that; for example, for the ship to go vertically up, the heading would be 0 mark 90.

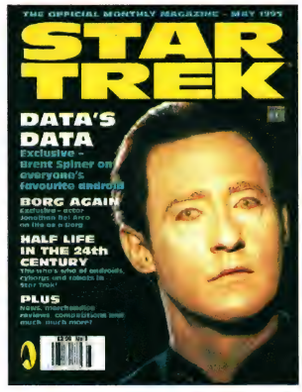
Q Has the man filling up the flying vehicle in *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* and the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* episode *Conspiracy*, been doing so all that time?
(AGK, Headcorn, Kent)

A Perhaps he's part of a job creation scheme.

A Fistful of Data was compiled by Andrew Darling. Special thanks to: Terry Jones, *The Star Trek: The Next Generation Companion*, *The ST:TNG Technical Manual*, and *Captains' Logs*.

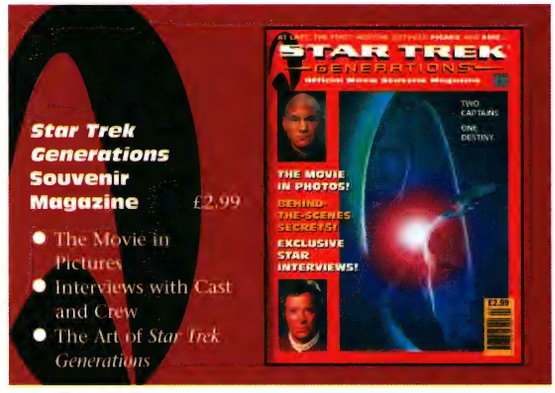
Top right: *Picard makes his 'mark'*
Right: *Exceptionally fast...even without the speed stripes*
Below: *The power dressing Deanna Troi*





Back issues...

the *Obsidian Order* wondered why they had wasted so much time on torture with this much information so readily at hand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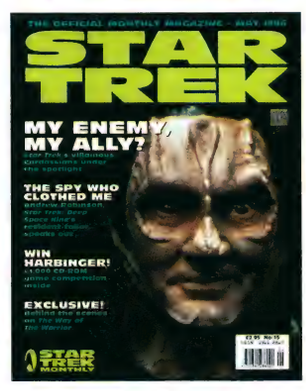

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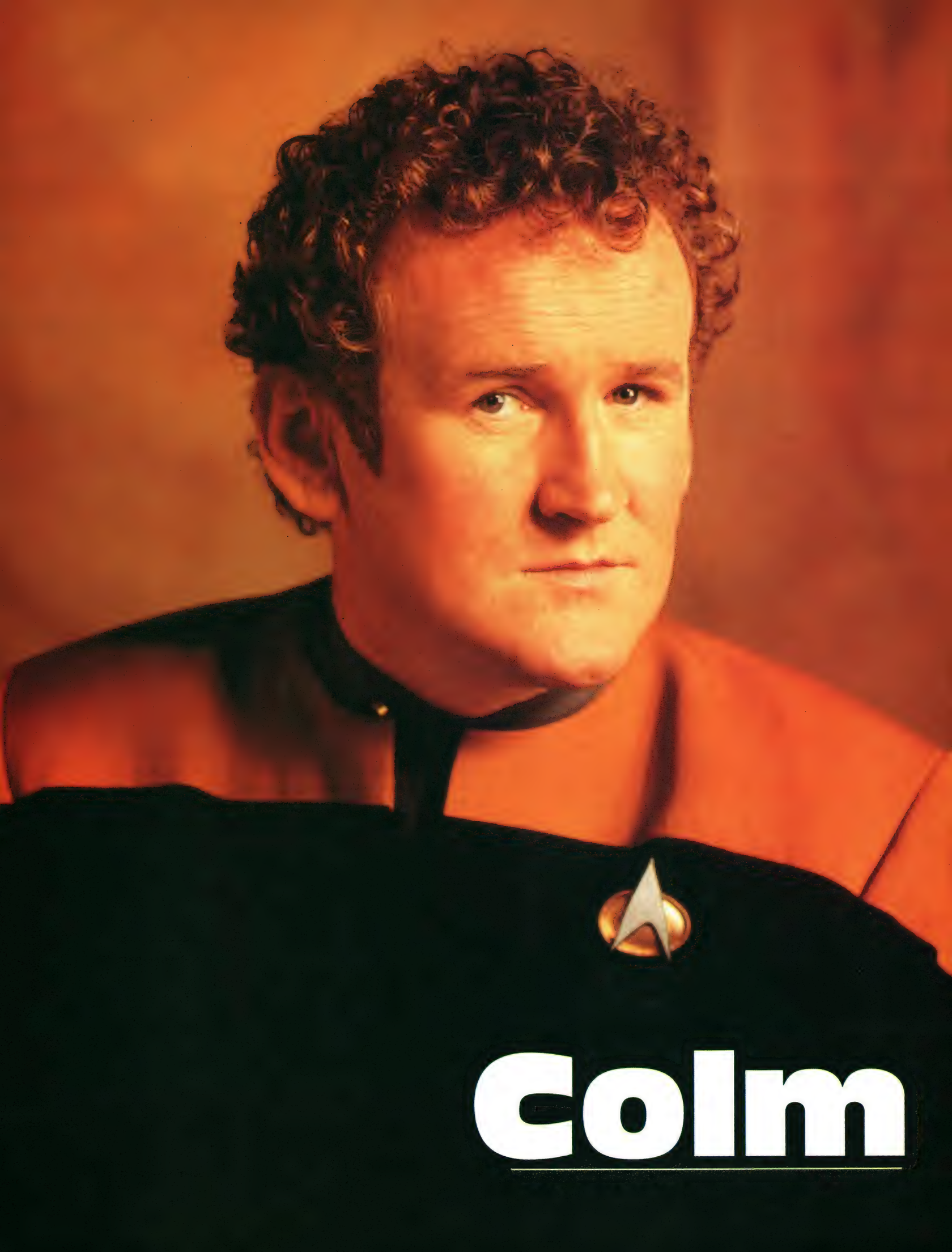

Colm

"I sit down here and think we've been at Star Trek: Deep Space Nine *for four years now. It's flown by and we're still having a good time. It is hard to believe."*

An Enlisted Man

He's the only major *Star Trek* crew man to marry, he's down to earth and never one to pull punches when he has something to complain about. Ian Spelling talks to perhaps the most Human of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*'s crew...

Growing up in Ireland, Colm Meaney never considered himself much of a science fiction fan. Nor was he at all a Trekker. "I was much more into history and, to some extent, comedy. Science fiction would not be a favourite of mine. I was always aware of *Star Trek*," remembers Meaney, "but *F-Troop* was more my kind of show."

Funny then, that Meaney has spent a good portion of his rather prolific career hurtling through Gene Roddenberry's legendary *Star Trek* Universe as *Chief Miles O'Brien*, first on *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and now on *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. The irony is not lost on the good-natured actor. "It is pretty strange, you know?" he acknowledges in that familiar accent of his. "I sit down here and think we've been at *ST:DS9* for four years now. It's flown by and we're still having a good time. It is hard to believe. Then, I think about how long I did *ST:TNG* and it gets even harder to believe. I still enjoy coming to work. We're still doing good work and we're still entertaining people. So it's great. Right now, we're all very pleased with where the show is, creatively and otherwise. We have good, strong storylines. Each of us in the cast gets our episodes. It's cyclical in that two or three times a season we'll each have a major episode. I think also that the writers have been incredibly inventive this season. So, I'm quite happy.

"O'Brien has continued to evolve. There are the obvious things, like the family situation with Miles, *Keiko* (Rosalind Chao) and *Molly* (Hana Hatae), which has been developed nicely, and the relationship between *Dr Julian Bashir* (Alexander Siddig) and O'Brien shows us another dimension to both of these guys. We see them go out and be playful, in a sense. They compete and they're friends, and they've also had disagreements. I like that. We've seen them do the normal kinds of things that guys do, outside of their actual work situation. I think they've also done a nice job with O'Brien's relationship with *Captain Benjamin Sisko* (Avery Brooks). There's a loyalty between these two men that I like. I'd say O'Brien has been fleshed out here and there, more than can be revealed all at once, which is smart. His personality is being enhanced and filled in. As time goes on, there are more and more elements to be found in the character."

Due to Meaney's remarkably hectic schedule, which finds him leaving the *Paramount Pictures* lot to tackle roles in various television and film projects, the actor doesn't appear in every *ST:DS9* episode. Usually, he's either in just a scene here or there or featured quite heavily in a given hour. Over the past year or two, as Meaney toiled in such films as *The Road to Wellville, The Snapper* and *The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill and Came Down a Mountain*, as well as the upcoming *The Van* and *Last of the High Kings*, his *ST:DS9* presence has been noticeably low-profile.

Still, he's managed to squeeze in such O'Brien-centric episodes as *Paradise, Tribunal, Visionary, Facets, Hippocratic Oath, Accession, Hard Times* and *Shattered Mirror*, among others. The majority of these shows, not surprisingly, have paired Meaney with Siddig, Brooks, or Chao. "I suppose I've worked more with Sid than anyone else over that period of time. We have a lot of fun together, Sid and I. We do

Opposite: *Two series of* **Star Trek** *under his belt, but ready for anything they can throw at him...* **Left:** *...even holographic nightmares like* **Doctor Bashir** *as a secret agent!*

Meaney

"We do get a little worried sometimes," admits Meaney, "that the relationship between O'Brien and Bashir becomes a little too one-dimensional."

get a little worried sometimes," admits Meaney, "that the relationship between O'Brien and Bashir becomes a little too one-dimensional. So, we try to gear our performances to counter that as much as possible. I think people watching the show see that there's a good relationship going between the actors playing the characters.

"I also love getting to work with Avery. Unfortunately I haven't been doing too much of it this season and I've missed it. We only have a scene together every so often. Actually, I just did a scene with him today, and it was like we hadn't seen each other in months! So that was great.

"Avery has also directed a few episode of the show, as you know. Working with Avery as a director is so great. He's got an amazing mind and he always makes his episodes exciting to do and to look at. Roz is another one I haven't worked with nearly enough in the last year or two. She's actually been back for the last two episodes we've recorded and it's been like meeting a long-lost pal. We kind of know instinctively what the other is going to do in a scene, with a line. It's just a joy to work with Roz, and we have such a good time. Everyone else here in the cast is really great, but most of my scenes, as I've said, are with Sid, Avery, and Roz."

Nearly two years ago, O'Brien found himself back aboard the *U.S.S. Enterprise*, surrounded by all of his old friends, in the *ST:TNG* final episode, *All Good Things*. Meaney remembers being both excited and feeling a sense of *déja vu* as he slipped into a vintage, first season *ST:TNG* costume and joined his former cast mates one last time. "It was strange, very nostalgic. I thought it was a very powerful way for *ST:TNG* to go out," he notes. "I thought it was a great story and a terrific episode. It covered a lot of ground and left you thinking. I'd seen most of the guys on a fairly regular basis because *ST:DS9* and *ST:TNG* were just across the street from each other. Now, I still see some of them. LeVar (Burton) has directed a couple of our episodes, so I've seen a lot of him. Michael (Dorn), of course, is with us full-time now on *ST:DS9*. Jonathan (Frakes) is around all the time, too. He's directed a number of *Star Trek: Voyager* episodes and he's just set up an office around the corner here to prepare for the (upcoming *ST:TNG*) film. We've all got our own, different things going on, our own families and our own lives, but we see each other fairly regularly, which is nice."

While Meaney has indeed been put through his paces by such actors-turned-directors as Brooks, Burton, Frakes, and René Auberjonois, he himself harbours no aspirations to beam behind the camera. "I won't be directing anything any time soon," he promises. "I don't know that I'd be very good at it and I don't see the point of trying when I don't have any kind of unique, visionary brain towards it. You never say never," he states, "but I was asked to direct in the theatre and didn't think that was a good idea. What I do is act. I am an actor and I try to do that well. I'm happy with that. I get enough satisfaction out of the acting to keep me happy."

From here, the conversation moves onto some of those 'other things' Meaney has going on in his professional life. First, there is *The Van*. "That's the third book in Roddy

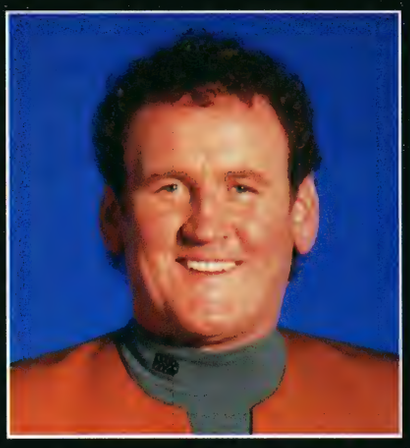
"So much of one's acting depends on the writing. It's like being a musician. If you get a good score, you can play great music."

Doyle's trilogy, and it brings *The Commitments* story to an end," he reveals. "It actually takes place before *The Snapper*, but it's the third book, which makes it the finale. It's a prequel, I guess. Basically, it's the story of the dad, who was Jimmy Rabbite, Sr. in *The Commitments* and had another name in *The Snapper*. Believe it or not, they've changed his name again for *The Van*. While there were copyright reasons involved in changing his name for *The Commitments*, they were actually such different films. There was an effort to distance *The Snapper* from *The Commitments* because we didn't want people to think they were going to see *The Commitments II*. People can be so obsessive about sequels. So, we're just doing that distancing thing again. Word is that the film is terrific."

And what of *Last of the High Kings*? "I did a cameo in that one, sort of an extended cameo. Stephen Rea and I both have these small parts in the film, which was written and produced by Gabriel Byrne, who's a friend of mine and who I worked with on *Into the West*. It's a basic coming-of-age story about a young man (Jared Leto) just about to graduate from high school. It's about the summer of graduation, this young boy growing into manhood, and his memories of all that," explains the actor. "It's a lovely story. I play a politician. The boy's mother (Catherine O'Hara of *Beetlejuice* fame) is very active politically and she swoons at the mention of my name. A general action takes place and I come to visit her family's house the night of the election. Everyone is very impressed with me, of course, except for the kid and his friends. They think I'm a boring old fart."

Meaney also takes a few minutes to reflect on *The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill and Came Down a Mountain*, the charming Christopher Monger-directed film in which he portrays Morgan the Goat, an entrepreneurial innkeeper who tries to both make a buck and convince map makers Hugh Grant and Ian McNiece not to reclassify a Welsh town's mountain as a mere hill. "I'd read that script a year, a year and a half before we ever did it. From the moment I read it I really wanted to do it," enthuses Meaney, who lives in Los Angeles but spends as much free time as possible with some of his family in Ireland. "So much of one's acting depends on the writing. It's like being a musician. If you get a good score, you can play great music. In a sense, Morgan the Goat was effortless to play

Colm Meaney PROFILE



BIRTHDAY: 30 May
BIRTHPLACE: Ireland

Selected Credits:

FILM

Omega Syndrome (1987)
The Dead (1987) – Mr Bergin
Perfect Witness (1989, TV)
Die Hard 2 (1990)
– Pilot (Windsor Plane)
Dick Tracy (1990) – Cop at Tess'
Come See the Paradise (1990)
The Commitments (1991) – Mr Rabbitte
Under Siege (1992) – Doumer
The Last of the Mohicans (1992)
– Major Ambrose
Into the West (1992) – Barreller
Far and Away (1992) – Kelly
Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (1992)
The Snapper (1993) – Dessie Curley
(Nominated for a Golden Globe award for Best Actor)
War of the Buttons (1994)
– Geronimo's Dad
The Road to Wellville (1994)
– Dr Lionel Badger
The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill, But Came Down a Mountain (1995)
– Morgan the Goat
The Van (1996)

TELEVISION

One Life to Live (1968)
Kenny Rogers as The Gambler, Part III - The Legend Continues (1987, TV)
– Tinkerer
Star Trek: The Next Generation (1987)
– *Chief Miles Edward O'Brien* (1987-93)
Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1993-)
– Chief Miles O'Brien
Scarlett (1994, mini-series)
– Father Colum O'Hara

Opposite page:
Top left: *Conversation, flirtation and a damn fine cup of coffee*
Centre left: *Captain Picard meets Miles O'Brien for the first time – again – in* ST:TNG All Good Things
Bottom left: *Another first as O'Brien tries to make sense of Data's peculiar understanding of the Human language*
This page:
Far left: *Miles and Keiko share a tender moment – or at least Keiko does*
Left: *Smiley by name...*

MILES EDWARD O'BRIEN PROFILE

2331 *Born in September, Earth, son of* Michael O'Brien

2349 *Turns down cello scholarship to Aldebaran Music Academy with a last-minute sign-up as non-commissioned officer in Starfleet, angering father*

2350 *As a young crewman on* U.S.S Rutledge *under* Captain Ben Maxwell, *saves 13 men from capture on Setlik III after* Cardassian *massacre of UFP colony there when he operates a field transporter with no experience; re-assigned by Maxwell as a bridge tactical officer*

2364 *Transferred to* U.S.S. Enterprise *under* Captain Jean-Luc Picard *as relief conn officer*

2365 *Re-assigned as* U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D *transporter chief, usually in Transporter Room 3*

2367 *Marries botanist* Keiko Ishikawa *aboard* U.S.S. Enterprise *after brief courtship; helps talk former Captain Maxwell, now of* U.S.S. Phoenix, *out of further marauding attacks against Cardassians*

2368 *Daughter* Molly *born; body temporarily possessed by an Ux-Mal criminal's life essence*

2369 *Named chief of operations aboard* DEEP SPACE NINE *under Cmdr. Ben Sisko, still a CPO*

2370 *Murder attempted by T'Lani-Kellerun conspiracy and the Paradas; framed as a Maquis spy by Cardassians and nearly executed*

2371 *Dies of radiation poisoning, replaced by twin from five hours into the future from an alternate universe*

2372 *Accidentally sentenced to compressed memory 'imprisonment' by the Argrathi; due to become a father again*

because he was so well written, so honestly written. We also had a good time making the film, and I quite enjoyed working with Hugh. I'm glad it finally came together, because it was something we all really believed in, and rightly so, you know?"

"I won't be directing anything any time soon – I don't know that I'd be very good at it..."

So busy is Meaney these days, that one can't help but wonder if he ever tires of *ST:DS9*, or whether or not the show might be deterring him from acting in more feature films or pursuing other television opportunities. The answer, he replies with virtually no hesitation, is no. O'Brien remains a challenge to him, what with episodes that find O'Brien being tortured by *Cardassians*, watching his own death, or even not quite being O'Brien, as when he's been *Falcon*, a Shapeshifter delivering a message to Sisko, or *Smiley*.

"All of these different, interesting things keep happening to O'Brien," says Meaney, "Each new episode brings something new for him and for me. I often compare the situation of being here on the show to being in the theatre, in weekly rep, where you do a new show every week. One week you play the lead and the next week you're hardly in it. That helps to keep it fresh, at least for me," reasons

A QUESTION OF RANK...

Many *STAR TREK Monthly* readers have asked about *Chief Miles O'Brien*'s rank, given that he seems to have been demoted when transferred to the DEEP SPACE NINE space station from the *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D*. It appears the situation may originally have been due to a wardrobe error, although Jeri Taylor argues that the error existed in *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and was simply being corrected when he transferred.

The quest to discover O'Brien's true rank within Starfleet begins all the way back in 1987 in *ST:TNG's Encounter at Farpoint*, when he appears as the conn officer. He was next seen as a Transporter Chief, wearing two solid gold pips on his collar. But later in *ST:TNG*'s run, Worf's foster father refers to O'Brien being a Chief Petty Officer – so, do Starfleet use the same rank insignia to donate officers and non-commissioned officers?

At some point a member of the *ST:TNG* production team must have realised this lack of distinction was a problem and changed O'Brien's insignia to one hollow pip at the beginning of season six, before he left for DEEP SPACE NINE. Unfortunately, O'Brien's two gold pips returned in the *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* pilot *The Emissary*, then reverted to the hollow pip in time for *Past Prologue*. Is it any wonder confusion has reigned...

Thankfully, the recent *ST:DS9* episode *Hippocratic Oath* should have cleared up all this confusion once and for all, when O'Brien's status as a Chief Petty Officer was confirmed by a Jem'Hadar. It appears Starfleet does not consist solely of full officers but also of personnel who have undergone specialised training in particular areas. In O'Brien's case these would be transporter operation and, since he was once tactical officer of the *U.S.S. Rutledge*, tactical operations.

The existence of unenlisted officers was confirmed in *ST:TNG's The Drumhead*, when Simon Tarsis is asked by Picard why he did not study to become a full officer. Perhaps all non-commissioned officers are usually given the hollow insignia to distinguish themselves from ordinary enlisted personnel. Looking back as far as *Where No One Has Gone Before*, *Specialist Kosinski* had two square or rectangular gold pips, and, although they were never seen again, it could be possible that the producers were attempting to institutionalise insignia for non-coms.

Incidentally, *Tuvok*'s rank is Lieutenant, and it has been since *The Caretaker*, but he was mistakenly given a Commander's insignia for the first few episodes of *Star Trek: Voyager*. Another debate in the making... ■

Compiled with the assistance of Andrew Darling and reader Ciaran Creedon

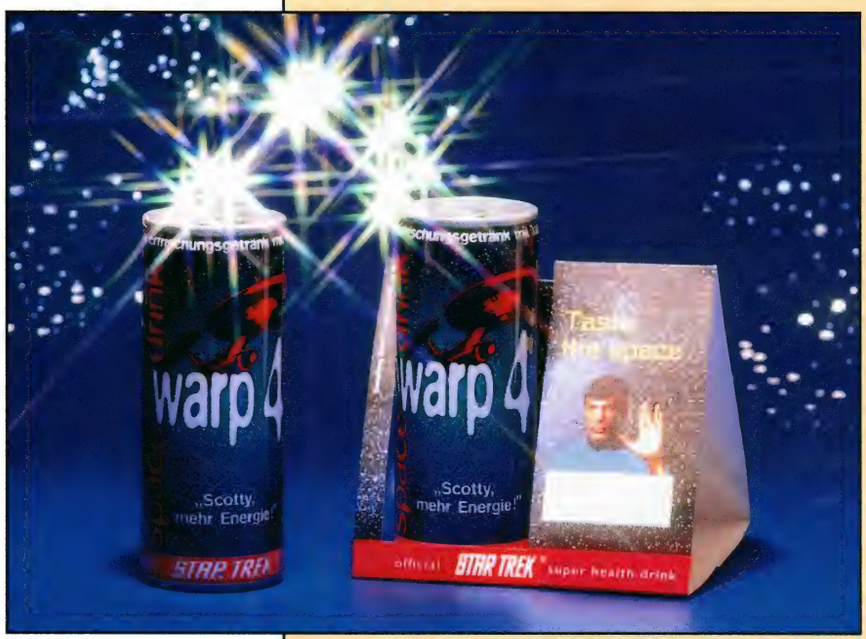
Opposite page:
Top left: *A fine display of Klingon bashing in* The Way of the Warrior...
Top right: *...offset by yet another fine display of deep feeling*
Bottom: *Miles is about to lose more than just his shirt in* ST:DS9 Tribunal
This page:
Below: *The feisty engineer takes the helm of the* U.S.S. Defiant *in* For The Cause

"I don't want to be the lead every week, just as I don't want to not be the lead every week."

Colm Meaney. "I don't want to be the lead every week, just as I don't want to not be the lead every week. Also, the fact that the producers here have let me get away so often to do other things kind of keeps my head in it. Since I came onto *ST:DS9*, I haven't actually been here for an entire season straight through. That's helped. But, as I say, O'Brien is still interesting, I enjoy the company I keep here, and we're still doing work we can be very proud of. It's a nice mix, a very nice mix. I'll probably be around as long as all of that continues!" ■

From the Replicator

Merchandise



Above: *Move over* Pepsi, Warp 4 *is here!*
Above right: *No collection would be complete without these 30th Anniversary stamps...*
Right: Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country *as you've never seen it before – on laserdisc*

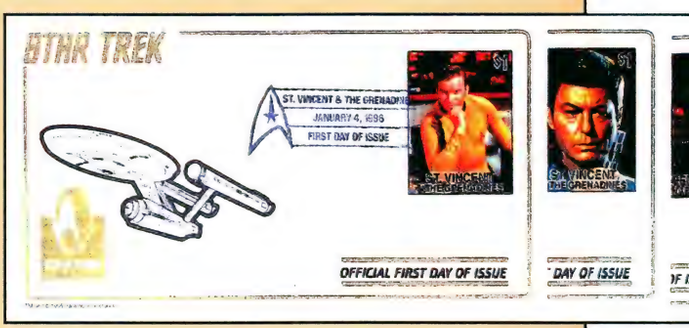
June is by no means a busy month for *Star Trek* toy and other product releases. **Downpace**'s pewter mugs are being re-promoted, but apart from this, even **Bandai** are taking a low profile – perhaps in lieu of their massive range of 30th Anniversary releases, scheduled for August/September.

Promotions International produce a range of unusually designed Tumblenot Mugs, regularly seen in *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. The current range consists of five logos: *Klingon*, *Romulan*, *Ferengi*, *United Federation of Planets* and *Starfleet* Command. There are also two starship designs and an original series mug featuring the *Star Trek* logo. Look out for two brand new mugs – one classic one featuring that popular slogan: "Live long and prosper", and one *Star Trek: The Next Generation*–based mug sporting those immortal words: "To boldly go where no one has gone before".

SCKP Ltd have produced two sets of 30th Anniversary stamps from St Vincent,. one depicting scenes from various classic *Star Trek* episodes and the other pictures of the original crew, each set presented in an acrylic case with a blue marble effect frame.

If you're one of a growing number of people with a **Pioneer** laser disc player in the UK, you may have missed the April release of the *Star Trek* pilot episodes in this format, although given that the company have seen *Star Trek* purchasers drive sales of their equipment, I doubt it! This is a good starting point for a collection in this format and will be re-promoted this month. The picture and sound quality has to be seen to be believed – both much sharper than your standard VHS tape and with players now a measly £279 it might just be worth investigating this new technology, if you can afford to...

On the down side, it's a shame that the PAL format doesn't offer as many opportunities for extra material as NSTC laser discs, but with new laws making the importation of these into the UK illegal, let's hope it generates an increase in the range of titles available. *Pioneer* say they're also looking at value added items for all their product – so *STAR TREK Monthly* will be keeping an eye on developments.



Finally, **Warp 4**, the official *Star Trek* energy drink, is now on sale in the UK, distributed by **Brand Marketing International**. There's also a range of branded merchandise available, including baseball caps and badges. ■

Paul Christopher

On Screen

STAR TREK

Special Collectors' Edition
Star Trek Memories/City on the Edge of Forever/ The Trouble with Tribbles
Release date: 3 June
STM* Ratings: *Star Trek Memories/ City on the Edge of Forever*****/ The Trouble with Tribbles********
The first original season release in June will be the Special Collectors' Edition, known as The Tricorder Pack, because the box is shaped like a Tricorder complete with a shoulder strap! The video inside contains the episodes voted "the best that the original series has to offer" by the readers of *STAR TREK Monthly*. Both *The City on the Edge of Forever* and *The Trouble With Tribbles* should require no introduction, since they are obviously your favourites! Incidentally, it's worth looking out for *Virgin Books'* release of the book on the making of *The Trouble with Tribbles* by writer David Gerrold, which has been produced with special permission from both *Paramount Pictures* and *Pocket Books*. This is a fascinating account of how the story was created – the story is remarkable alone for the fact that this was the first script by a first time writer and it got accepted. Budding writers could certainly pick up a few pointers with this.

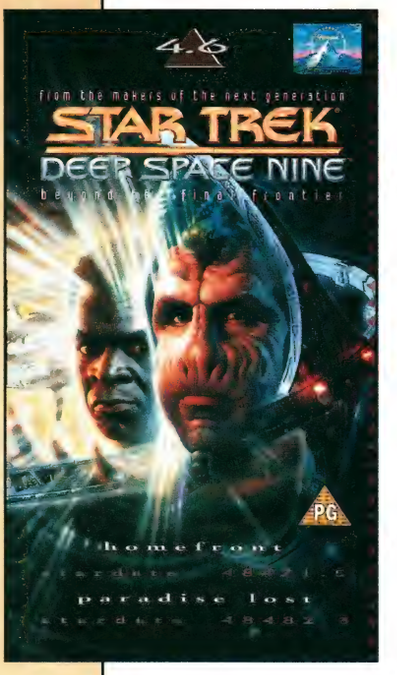
The video also contains William Shatner's *Star Trek Memories*. This is a fascinating documentary which features each and every one of the original series cast, and Dorothy Fontana, talking about the day–to–day making of the original series. William Shatner is to be applauded both for his books on the making of *Star Trek* and for this illuminating video. Completing the pack is a booklet about the creation of the series and information about the episodes.

Volume 1.1
The Cage/Where No Man Has Gone Before/ The Corbomite Maneuver
Release date: 24 June
STM* Ratings: *The Cage/Where No Man Has Gone Before***/The Corbomite Maneuver*****
The Cage was the first *Star Trek* pilot which was never made as a series. *Mr Spock* appears in it, but the captain, *Christopher Pike*, was played by Jeffrey Hunter. This now classic story is about the power of illusion. A race of aliens has evolved beyond reproduction and lure the good Captain in the hopes that he will breed with a surviving, captive Human female.

Where No Man Has Gone Before was the pilot that did launch *Star Trek*. The Captain is William Shatner and both *Scotty* and *Sulu* are introduced. First officer *Gary Mitchell* is transformed into a powerful telekinetic being, after the *U.S.S. Enterprise* encounters a powerful energy wave at the edge of the galaxy. Unfortunately, this corrupts him so totally that he has to be stopped. Sally Kellerman (Hot Lips from *M.A.S.H.*) guest stars as a psychiatrist and helps save the day. This is a really interesting episode, setting out all of the basic principles of *Star Trek*'s early years.

In *The Corbomite Maneuver*, the ship encounters a large rotating cube in an area of unexplored space. This is another outstanding episode which most will recognise, whether or not they are die hard fans of the show. Volume 1.1 of the original series is excellent value for money. Not only are these excellent stories, as good as any presented in the later series of *Star Trek*, but they work brilliantly for nostalgia value as well.

If this wasn't enough to persuade you, every volume of the repackaged *Star Trek* series contains three episodes, introduced by Walter Koenig, James Doohan or George Takei. Definitely a value added item!



THE *STAR TREK MONTHLY* RATING SYSTEM

* Total gagh!
** Impulse Power only
*** Warp Speed
**** Trill-powered viewing
***** Gold-pressed latinum!

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

Volume: 4.6
Home Front/Paradise Lost
Release date: 3 June
STM* Ratings: *Home Front/Paradise Lost******
Reviewed last issue ■

Stuart Clark and Nikki Harper

Release dates were correct as of press time.

Computer Game Releases

Hot on the heels of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine Harbinger*, the CD-ROM game *Klingon Immersion Studies* has just been released in the last few days through **CIC Interactive**. In the game, whose 80 minutes of live action sequences were directed by Jonathan Frakes, the player plays the character *Pok*, a young *Klingon* warrior caught up in the dangerous circles of Klingon clan politics. You'll be put through Starfleet's holographic training in Klingon language, culture and combat techniques, and a frighteningly realistic interactive episode tests your skills in Klingon phrases, customs, body language, and even the proper cooking of gagh!

Survive the crucial Language Lab and you may test your new-found knowledge of TlhIngan Hol. On the day of first Rite of Ascension your father is murdered in his own home and it is up to you, with the help of *Gowron* (Robert O'Reilly), Leader of the Klingon High Council, to find the murderer and close the circle of vengeance. Along the way you will encounter strange aliens, treacherous friends, and serve aboard a Bird-of-Prey, the *Borta*.

Star Trek: Klingon Immersion Studies utilises full screen and full motion video, enabling users to fully immerse

Robert O'Reilly Talks about the *Klingon Immersion Studies* CD-ROM

By Joe Nazzaro

"The director was Jonathan Frakes who originally hired me as *Gowron* (in the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* episode *Reunion*), so it was like coming home in a way. I hadn't been directed by Jonathan since that opening episode, more than five years ago. "We had a great time, even though there was a lot of pressure; it's about 120 pages of script, and we had to shoot it very quickly. This is not like the other video game I did; I actually play Gowron this time. I'm in every scene but one - I've never been in a show that much, so it was exhausting to do it. We shot it for 10 straight days, and I don't know of any *Klingon* who's ever been in uniform for that many hours in a row!

"The game is hard to describe, but I am visiting somewhere when an old Klingon buddy of mine is murdered. The rest of the game is us trying to find out who the murderer is, and, at the same time, the person playing the game is learning how to be a Klingon, and to make correct Klingon choices to find out who the murderer is. It's almost a Klingon murder mystery, but it's ingeniously written, so we don't stay in just one place. We get in our ship and go to different places in different planetary systems.

"The game has quite a large cast. There's probably eight principals and 15-20 characters in all. We have space bartenders, lots of Klingons, and a number of non-Klingons. There's even a *Pakled*, the dolts of the universe, and the guy who plays him is hilarious!

"There are also a number of actors who have been on *Star Trek*, although they didn't necessarily play Klingons. There's Scott MacDonald , who played one of the monsters in *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (Face of the Enemy)*; Martha Hackett (who plays *Seska* in *Star Trek: Voyager*); John Shull (who appeared in *Star Trek: The Next Generation* episode *Firstborn*); Barry Lynch (*Face of the Enemy*); Catherine McNeil, who I think played a *Romulan* in *ST:DS9*, and Joel McKinnon as the Pakled captain. It was a great group of people.

"They actually built a whole Klingon ship on Stage 2 at *Paramount Pictures*. We didn't even go to the *ST:DS9* set, which was funny, because when I started working on *The Way of the Warrior*, I almost felt I was still doing the CD-ROM. I never left Stage 2 for a month. We filmed for 10 days, and usually a regular episode is done in seven or eight days, so we filmed longer than a one-hour show because the script was one-third longer than a regular television script.

"It was by far the most difficult thing I've ever done as an actor but I think it's fabulous, and it's going to go through the roof!" ■

themselves in the role-playing simulations. The video footage has the exact look and feel of the more recent *Star Trek* series, shot from first person point of view. Marc Okrand, creator of the Klingon language and author of *The Klingon Dictionary* and *Power Klingon*, wrote the language lab and was a consultant for the project.

Klingon Immersion Studies **(CD-ROM - PC, 0671 52873 4, £44.99)**
Klingon Immersion Studies **(CD-ROM - Mac, 0671 52872 6, £44.99)**

INCOMING...

The *Star Trek Generations* CD-ROM adventure from **Spectrum HoloByte** was rescheduled from a March to a 1 May release in the US. Currently a Windows 95 version only, it features the voices of the movie cast and promises to be an exciting game offering a mix of first-person action sequences, challenging ship-to-ship encounters, strategy plotting missions in Stellar Cartography and cinematic sequences.

The story line of the game will be closely tied to the action segments of the *Star Trek Generations* film, in which *Captain James T. Kirk* and *Captain Jean-Luc Picard* join forces to defeat the evil *Dr Soran*. The game is also in development for the Sony PlayStation.

Bad news for *Star Trek Omnipedia* fans: the enhanced CD-ROM originally scheduled for an April release has been postponed until Autumn 1996. As soon as a new date is confirmed, notice will be given.

Scheduled for release later this year are a *Star Trek: Voyager* game and a *Borg* game (tying in no doubt with the next film). More news next issue! ■

15 KLINGON IMMERSION STUDIES CD-ROM GAMES MUST BE WON!

CIC Interactive have very kindly given us 15 copies of the new *Klingon Immersion Studies* computer game to give away! All *you* have to do to try and get your hands on a copy of this superb new game is correctly answer the five *Klingon*-inspired questions below, then send the answer (using the coupon below or postcards *only*, please) to: **The *Klingon Immersion Studies* Competition** (#16), *STAR TREK Monthly*, *Titan Magazines*, 42 - 44 Dolben Street, London SE1 0UP. Multiple entries will be phasered, the Editor's decision is final and all entries MUST be received by Friday 28 June 1996. Please do not include competition entries with other correspondence as they may go astray!) Good Luck...

***STAR TREK: KLINGON IMMERSION STUDIES* ENTRY FORM**
(Copies acceptable)

Name the first *Star Trek* episode to feature the Klingons

_____

Name the planet on which the Klingons were supplying natives with the means to make better weapons in the original series of *Star Trek*.

_____

What's the official Klingon measure of distance, first used in the movie *Star Trek III: The Search For Spock*?

_____

Name the rite by which a Klingon becomes a warrior, featured in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*'s 'Firstborn'.

_____

Name the three Klingons from the original series who also appeared in *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* 'Blood Oath'

_____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

_____ AGE ____

DO YOU PURCHASE *STAR TREK* VIDEOS
Yes ❑ No ❑

DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET
Yes ❑ No ❑

WHICH IS YOUR FAVOURITE *STAR TREK* COMPUTER GAME PRODUCT TO DATE?

❑ Tick here if you do not wish to receive details of any special offers or new products

Please tick which format you prefer your prize to be supplied on:

❑ *KLINGON IMMERSION STUDIES* – PC MINIMUM CONFIGURATION
Multimedia PC including 486/25 MHz; 8MB RAM; Colour Monitor with 256 colours and 640 x 480 resolution; Double-speed CD-ROM drive; Windows compatible sound card; Microsoft Windows 3.1

❑ *KLINGON IMMERSION STUDIES* – MAC MINIMUM CONFIGURATION
Macintosh LC-III, Performa or better; 8MB or RAM or greater; 13" Colour Monitor with 256 colours; Double-speed CD-ROM drive; System 7.0 or later

PARAMOUNT PICTURES WEB SITE EXPANDS

Paramount Pictures have expanded their World Wide Web site (**http://www.paramount.com/**) to include features on their upcoming films and US video releases, and a store search facility for their US Home Video products. The site also touts three other powerful features: a mystery game activity for consumers called 'The Great Video Rescue'; an on-line *Paramount* Home Video catalog containing visual clips and stills and written production data; and a special section for net surfers to play exciting interactive trivia games.

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine is also a feature of the web site but is by no means as developed as the superb *Star Trek: Voyager* aspect, which continues to enthrall. In addition to this site **The Womens Link Web site** (**http://www.womenslink.com**), also constructed by *Paramount Digital Studios*, features an interview with Roxann Biggs-Dawson (*Lt. B'Elanna Torres)*. A crew follows her through a day's filming on *ST:VOY* and she talks about her childhood, how she got into acting, and her career before the series.

STAR TREK

***The Return* by William Shatner ***1/2**

Okay, so it was rather obviously set up at the end of Shatner's previous novel *The Ashes of Eden*, but no amount of wordage, conceit or willpower can alter the fact that Kirk died in *Star Trek Generations*. What *The Return* appears to be setting out to do is give him a 'better' send off, with both *Mr Spock* and *Dr Leonard McCoy* given meaty roles (Spock's is far bigger and better than Kirk's, ironically enough) and the rest of the *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D* given good supporting ones. Indeed, if this were to be the basis for the next movie, it would certainly be a good one for the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* crew. *Captain Jean-Luc Picard* and *Dr Beverley Crusher* get action, *Commander William Riker* gets to be in charge, *Lieutenant Commander Data*, *Lieutenant Commander Worf* and *Chief Engineer Geordi La Forge* get their bits but poor *Deanna Troi* still runs around empathising and doing very little constructive work. It also features the *Borg* (and has one of the most obvious and yawn-inspiring links to one of the earlier films) and gives both them and the *Romulans* a good degree of the spotlight. So, why don't all these ingredients work? Well, probably because it's all so pointless. Somehow I couldn't get into the book properly because *Captain James T. Kirk's* resurrection was neither satisfactorily explained nor very relevant. Bearing in mind Kirk has been officially dead for 80-odd years, his re-emergence as a bad guy is hardly going to upset the higher echelons of Starfleet, and only the two *U.S.S. Enterprise* crews knew he was alive anyway.

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

39: Rogue Saucer* by John Vornholt *

An author who varies from downright plodding to downright excellent, Vornholt's newest book floats happily near the upper part of that list. His use of good supporting characters such as *Admiral Nechayev* and *Ensign* (er, I mean Lieuten - um, *ex-officer*) *Ro* make reading this book an even more enjoyable experience.

Every so often, an author picks as their subject something a little bit daring and rather than 'Picard visits planet of aliens with bizarre culture/religious convictions/ strange language problems/bizarre sexual practices/a need to kill everyone with little hair on their head' Vornholt has concentrated on the starship itself and some Starfleet background. The Maquis make a welcome addition to the plot and ultimately, this all falls into place as a jolly fun piece of work. The separating of the crew, with Picard left on the main part of the ship and the unusual pairing of Geordi and Riker trapped on the out-of-control saucer section makes for unusual dynamics in *ST:TNG* storytelling and with none of the usual safety nets of Picard and Crusher dealing with being stranded, or Riker and Troi or Geordi and Data, we have a pairing that proves both interesting unpredictable and, frankly, amusing. I liked this story a lot.

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

14: The Long Night* by Dean Wesley Smith & Kathryn Rusch **

This is a truly fantastic book, full of good characterisation, a darn good plot and possessing a superb sense of doom and foreboding. It's a splendid mystery, successfully built up, weaving together all the characters (both the regulars and the ones created for this story) successfully and just brimming with ideas. Yes! Why are there not more books like this one? This has been the first *ST:DS9* novel (my favourite series, I have to admit) that works on every level.

One of the best things in this story is the use of *Jake* and *Nog* as important, intelligent and resourceful characters, rather than just annoying children (they are teenagers, but most people forget that) who contribute so much to the plot. I also love the spotlight falling on Bashir – his reluctance to initially work on the Supreme Ruler of the Jibetans because he knows he could fail and wreck Starfleet diplomacy is fabulous. Likewise, Sisko's fears over what he and his team are getting themselves into is equally inspired.

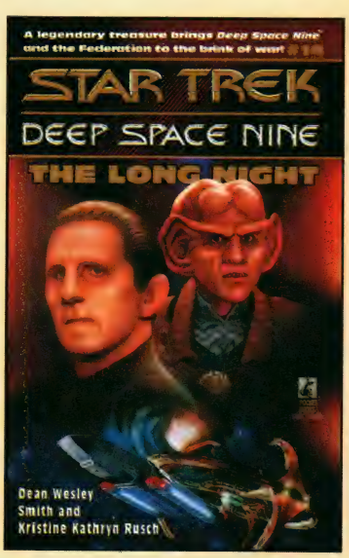
I haven't had so much difficulty putting a *Star Trek* book down as this in ages. Great stuff from two new novelists and with more from them on the horizon, their next book will be at the top of my must-read list, and if it turns out to be a fraction as good as this, I'll be satisfied.

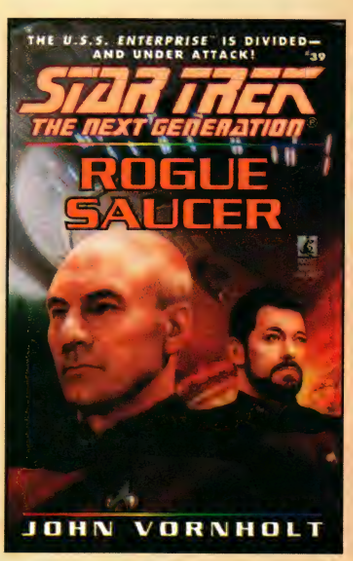
STAR TREK: VOYAGER

6: The Murdered Sun* by Christie Golden *

7: Ghost of a Chance* by Mark A. Garland & Charles G. McGraw *

Yes, yes, yes! Two concurrent books with one overriding success – *Captain Kathryn Janeway* comes over as the character she is on television. Whether facing six foot tall talking dragons or archaic reptiles, sure enough she's there, right on form. Even the overuse of the normally rather pedestrian 'Oh we can't do that because of the


A legendary treasure brings Deep Space Nine and the Federation to the brink of war!
STAR TREK
DEEP SPACE NINE
THE LONG NIGHT
Dean Wesley Smith and Kristine Kathryn Rusch



THE STAR TREK MONTHLY RATING SYSTEM

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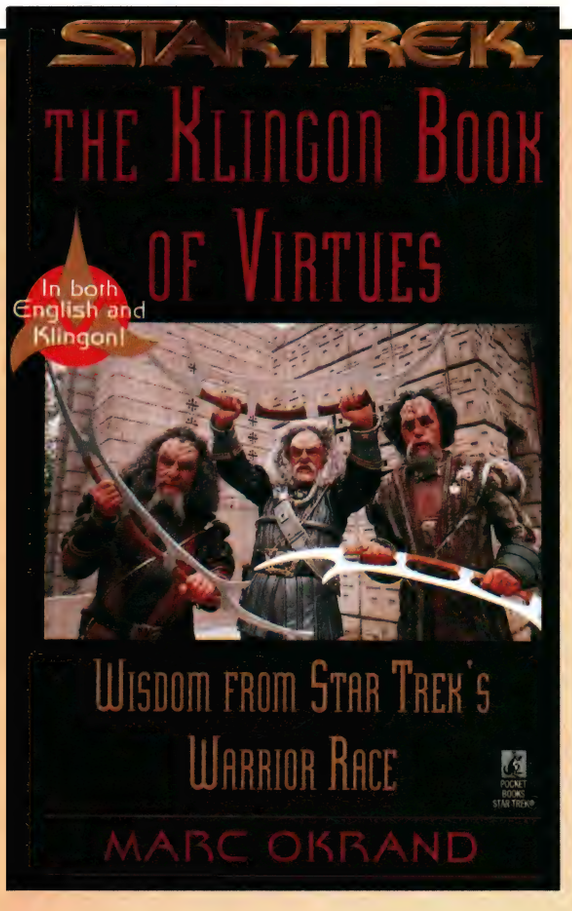


Prime Directive' seems refreshingly well utilised for a change. And, on top of all that, *Commander Chakotay* seems to get a bit of development as well, especially in *The Murdered Sun*.

Ghost of a Chance also uses the rest of the *U.S.S. Voyager* crew in an excellent manner (far better, in my opinion, than the majority of books over the last couple of years from any of the series) and again we begin to start seeing some faces and personalities that we recognise rather than just those familiar names doing a few unfamiliar things just to satisfy the author's need to fit them into the book's plot.

The *Star Trek: Voyager* releases have probably got off to a better start than either the *ST:TNG* or *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* books ever did this early on into their runs. It will be very interesting to see whether this can continue or whether the authors will run out of ideas.

LICENSED *STAR TREK* BOOKS AVAILABLE IN JUNE 1996

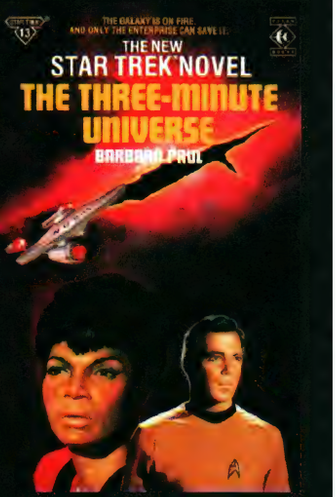
The list below was correct as of press time but may be subject to change. The ISBN numbers have been listed to assist with any enquiries about these titles.

SIMON & SCHUSTER

Reference
Inside Star Trek *by Bob Justman and Herb Solow (HB, S&S, £12.99, 0671 89628 8)*
An insider's guide to the making of the original Star Trek *series from two of the team that helped create a legend. Preview, Page 62*

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine
15: Objective Bajor *by John Peel (PB, S&S, £4.50, 0671 56811 6)*
The U.S.S. Defiant *answers a distress call from a* Bajoran *colony only to find the entire planet is being demolished by a huge, semi-living starship. Can* Captain Benjamin Sisko *and* Tactical Officer Worf *persuade an alien race to abandon their destruction and save the world and its colonists?*
Young Adult 8: Highest Score *by Kem Antilles (PB, S&S, £4.50, 0671 53817 9)*
Jake *and* Nog *have hit the jackpot playing holo video games in the Amusement Arcade. They're recruited by an alien to play the most difficult and challenging game ever – only to find that the monsters and threats they face are for real...*

Star Trek: Voyager
8: Cybersong *by S.N. Lewitt (PB, S&S, £4.50, 0671 56783 7)*
An alien ship takes control of the U.S.S. Voyager, *holding it and its crew hostage – can* Captain Kathryn Janeway *discover the mysterious alien's secret or be trapped forever?*



***Titan Books* reprints this month**

Star Trek
The Three Minute Universe *by Barbara Paul (PB, £4.99, 1 85286 068 5)*
Vulcan's Glory *by D.C. Fontana (PB, £4.99, 1 85286 098 7)*
My Enemy, My Ally *by Diane Duane (PB, £4.99, 1 85286 129 0)*
Double Double *by Michael Jan Friedman (PB, £4.99, 1 85286 130 4)*

Star Trek: The Next Generation
A Call to Darkness *by Michael Jan Friedman (PB, Titan, £4.99 1 85286 214 9)*

Reference

The Klingon Book of Virtues* by Marc Okrand *

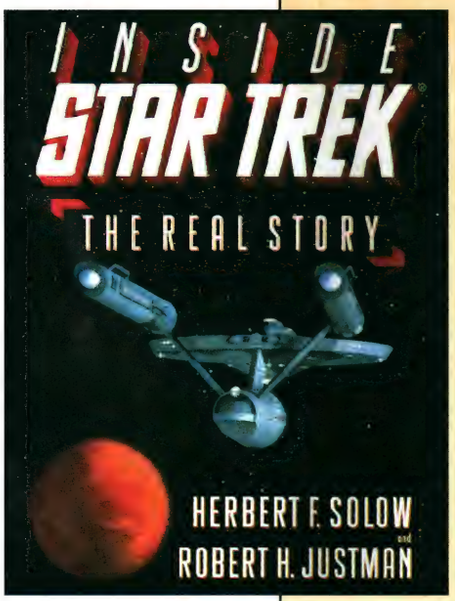
Oh dear. I so wanted to find something good to say about this, but, like the recent *Ferengi* Rules of Acquisition thing, I can only sigh with disappointment.

Okay, so this has some rather spiffing pictures of *Klingons*, more Klingons and, hell, a few of their chums (a particularly 'phwoor' look at Terry Farrell in her *Blood Oath* get-up comes to mind). *The Klingon Dictionary* was a curiosity because of both its originality and the tongue-in-cheek appeal of it. Here we have a book in both English and Klingon, dishing out Klingon philosophy, culture and metaphors.

I did buy a copy, being the sort of mug I accuse some of pandering to. Ah well... ■

All reviews by Gary Russell

Read Out Preview



Above right: Inside Star Trek *features exclusive photos such as this one taken to promote the show's controversial move to 10pm on Fridays on NBC*

Lou Anders previews *Inside Star Trek*, in conversation with co-writer Bob Justman

Herb Solow was the executive in charge of television productions for *Desilu Studios* when Gene Roddenberry came in with an idea for a science fiction series. Bob Justman was the assistant director on the two *Star Trek* pilots and later the associate producer on the series. In the absence of the late Gene Roddenberry, no one else is more qualified to tell the story of *Star Trek*'s early days and together these two men have written *Inside Star Trek*, the latest in the line of behind-the-scenes looks at what has become the most influential television show in history.

Unlike previous *Star Trek* books, these men have a unique perspective. "You can expect an insider's view and an insider's knowledge of the major events that shaped the show and thereupon shaped part of the culture of our country and, in fact, part of the culture of the world," says Bob Justman. "We were there. We participated in all the internal decisions, all the internal conflicts, and all the internal everything that came to make *Star Trek* what it became. I personally hired all the directors other than the first few, and supervised the preproduction, the production, and the post production of every episode for the time that I was on the show [two and a half out of three years]."

Inside Star Trek is the true story of the show's conception, its development, and it's premature death with the end of its third season. Justman and Solow explore every aspect from dealing with the actors to dealing with the studio brass. Inside are the real events surrounding *Gulf & Western*'s takeover of *Paramount Pictures*. Also included is a rather interesting chapter detailing the involvement of a rather famous red-head – none other than Lucille Ball of *I Love Lucy* fame. Another chapter explores what has become of all the people involved in the original series. Nothing has been omitted. In fact, while *Pocket Books* had requested 80,000 words, the two enthusiastic authors gave them a whopping 147,000 instead.

This was, to say the least, "a lot longer than they anticipated!" In a surprising move for a publishing company, they kept it all in. As Bob says, "they cut nothing. They just made the print tiny." One thing that makes *Inside Star Trek* unique is the innovative way in which it is written. As Bob explains, "We came up with this idea that we ought to speak in our own voices. So when Herb is speaking it's 'Herb:' and when I speak it's 'Bob:.' We alternate back and forth, but these two personal voices are interspersed with a third voice, the so called *deus ex machina*, that carries the story forward in time." *Inside Star Trek* is also organised in a rather significant way as well. "We've written the book like an episode, in four acts with a prologue and an epilogue."

"The book is full of drama," says Bob. "It's full of high-jinks and good times and bad times, tragedy and triumph. It's sort of like a soap opera." Sound exciting? Here's the bottom line as Bob sees it: "Anybody who opens this book in a book store, to any particular page, and starts to read, is going to get hooked." ■

Inside Star Trek *by Herb Solow and Bob Justman is published by* Simon & Schuster *on 3 June.*

WIN A COPY OF *MR SCOTT'S GUIDE TO THE ENTERPRISE!*

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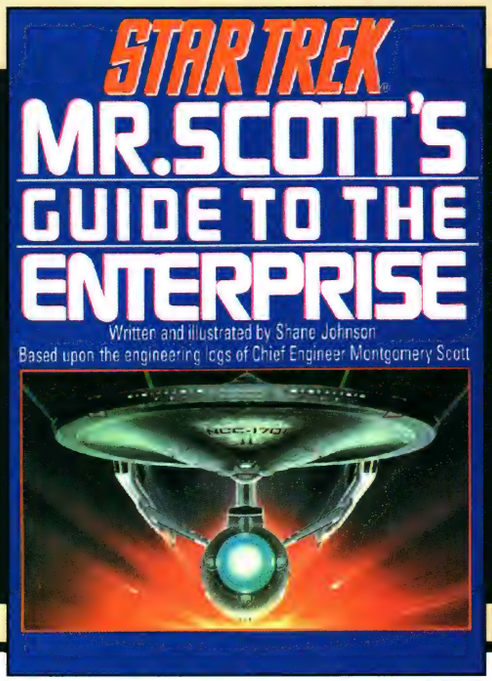
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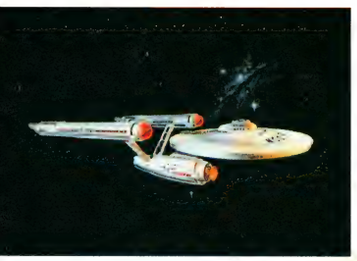

We continue to read all your letters and take on board suggestions for articles, criticisms and positive comments, even if we can't print them! Please send your letters to* STAR TREK Monthly, Titan Magazines, *42-44 Dolben Street, London SE1 0UP, or E-Mail us at our new on-line number: 101447.2455@ compuserve.com.

Please include your full address in addition to your e-mail contact. Please note that we will only print your full address if you ask us to. Letters may be edited for publication, so the more to the point, the better...

As an added incentive to persuade you to air your views, we'll be giving an all-new* ERTL Star Trek *model kit away to one of our correspondents each issue.

We're very sorry, but we cannot make personal replies to your letters. If your question is one many others are asking it will either be answered on these pages or, probably, in A Fistful of Data, at some point.

Pen Pals: Following much internal discussion, we have sadly had to abandon our pen pals column. The alternative would have been to either provide a column exclusively for readers over a certain age, or charge readers to have their name and details printed. Circumstances may change in the future.

GIVE *STAR TREK: VOYAGER* A CHANCE!

I have had enough of the anti-*Captain Janeway* letters in your magazine, and indeed the general attitude that *Star Trek: Voyager* is not worthy of true *Star Trek* fans' attention. I agree with the few people who are prepared to give *ST:VOY* a chance, and also remember that both *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* took three seasons to get the balance right, whereas I think the characters in *ST:VOY* are 'gelling' together nicely with the stories.

As for Kate Mulgrew's husky voice, I think it is sexy, and rather like Kirstie Alley's! Perhaps some *STM* readers can't get past the prejudice of following only one instalment of the *Star Trek* Universe, which is a great pity, and Roddenberry's vision of mankind's future as being without such bias is too optimistic. I like all incarnations of *Star Trek*, and all have their great and not-so-great episodes.

However, I think that Starfleet is being racist. All four series of *Star Trek* have HUMAN Captains. Are we so insecure as Humans that we couldn't handle an alien Captain? I hope not. Well, I've said my piece!

Barry McDonald, Gilford, Craigavon, County Armagh

Personally I think Spot could do just as good a job as Picard, any day! Oh dear, given the number of letters on that subject, maybe I shouldn't have said that...

HAIR-RAISING?

After watching the latest episodes of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, I wondered if you can only be a Captain in *Star Trek* if you have a bald head. Patrick Stewart is bald and proud of it, and now Avery Brooks has cut all his hair off out of choice. It worries me somewhat that Kate Mulgrew will soon come onto the bridge of the *U.S.S. Voyager* sporting a shaved head...

Stuart Lloyd, Romford, Essex

Perhaps it's no coincidence that she has a husky voice...

KIT CONUNDRUMS

On visiting the well presented *Star Trek* Exhibition at the *Science Museum* in London, I decided I would attempt to make the *ERTL* fibre optic *U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D*. This is the first *Star Trek* kit I have attempted to make and you need the patience of a Vulcan when assembling it, but the finished article is definitely worth the time and effort.

The real purpose of my letter is to let everyone know how helpful I found *ERTL* to be. One evening I was working on the kit when I broke the tiny drill you are provided with and one of the bulbs. I telephoned *ERTL* in the US and they said they could help and on offering my visa card number to pay was told it was not necessary. Within one week they had sent me not one drill and bulb but four new drills and a pack of new bulbs!

I would just like to convey my appreciation to *ERTL* for their help and look forward to the fibre optic *U.S.S. Voyager* kit becoming available.

Alan Grossmith, Gillingham, Kent

...I have been a subscriber to your fine magazine since I picked up the first issue last year. I recently went into the *Forbidden Planet* in London to buy a model of the *U.S.S. Defiant* which they claimed to have in stock in an advertisement published in your magazine. I was annoyed to find that the model has been delayed until November, so instead I bought a copy of *AMT/ERTL's* vinyl *Quark* model. I was extremely pleased with this model, and I wanted to know if there were anymore *ST:DS9* vinyl models due out, and if so, when?

'Morn', London

Well, 'Morn',* ERTL *have stated that the* U.S.S. Defiant *kit will now hopefully be out in October, but unfortunately they are not planning to bring out any other* ST:DS9 *model or figure kits this year. We will of course keep you informed as to their plans. In the meantime, I know it's not* ST:DS9, *but how about a* U.S.S. Enterprise *kit to keep you occupied until October?

LIFE-LONG FAN

I've been a life-long *Star Trek* fan but I've only recently started buying *STAR TREK Monthly*. I'd previously been put off by the comic strip. Although I like comics and graphic novels, this has a 'children's annual' quality that detracts from the rest of the magazine. Generally, however, it's a good read and I like the mix of articles, interviews and related news. As I'm currently hooked on *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, I bought issue 12 for the interview with the lovely Terry Farrell. I also thought the prints with issue 13 were superb, so much better than the often garish and ridiculously large posters that are available, just a pity they were double-sided. Do you have any more like these available? I'd gladly send a cheque and S.A.E., unless anymore are to be given away. I would certainly like to purchase the Kirk print again without having to buy another copy of the magazine.

L. W. Parker, Redhill, Worcester

We're glad you liked the free gifts, but we're sorry - extra prints are not available except by purchasing another copy of the magazine from our back issues department.

BOOKWORM

For a while now, several points have been niggling away at my (admittedly *Star Trek* oriented) brain. First and foremost is the overworked and underloved series *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. The mind boggles as to why this excellent, slickly produced and brilliantly executed series, by far the best in the *Star Trek* saga, continues to be ignored, even snubbed, by many *Star Trek* fans... well, I could go on all day...

NEXT ISSUE: ROMULAN RAMPAGE!

When it comes to devious plots, covert chicanery and unexpected invasions, the *Romulans* are the best at what they do – but we turn the spotlight on this alien race next issue and expose all their plans, foibles and weaknesses...

DENISE CROSBY, **MARK LENARD** and **CAROLINE SEYMOUR** have all played characters from *Star Trek*'s most treacherous race – and they've even been impersonated by **CAPTAIN KIRK**, **CAPTAIN JEAN-LUC PICARD** and **MR SPOCK**. Join us as we interrogate the stars and the production crew responsible for making the Romulans one of the series' most unforgettable races...

ALSO THIS ISSUE

- **WRITING *STAR TREK***
  An exclusive interview with Ron Moore, writer for three *Star Trek* generations

- **MOVIE UPDATE**
  The latest news on the *Star Trek: First Contact* film and ongoing series

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The second point in my mind relates to your publication. You are not providing enough book reviews for us *Star Trek*-mad bookworms! Also, don't just make us aware of a book's existence - review it, like you did in issue 12. I must disagree with Mr Gary Russell, though, I like the new *ST:TNG* covers.

Finally, I'd like to thank you for bringing us the interview with Terry Farrell in issue 12.

Kevin G. Power, 6 Church Road, Rathcoole, County Dublin, Eire (Full address printed on request)

Thanks for all your comments and suggestions, Kevin. Terry Farrell is obviously a top contender for 'most admired woman in* Star Trek *in fan letters', with Kate Mulgrew coming a close second, of course. As for book reviews, we hope this issue's in-depth review satisfies your literary taste buds for now...

STAR TREK: RESURRECTION?

May I say after 13 issues of *STAR TREK Monthly* that the magazine is becoming as legendary as the shows and films it is devoted to. I remember pondering whether to subscribe to *STM* or to another magazine also *Star Trek* oriented... as you've guessed, you won by light years.

My other main reason for writing concerns rumours of the life or death fate of *Captain James T. Kirk*, the greatest character EVER to appear in *Star Trek*. What would be more befitting than for *Mr Spock* to return the courtesy and go back for Kirk. I for one wish for his return, which can be best summed up by the words spoken by *Dr Leonard McCoy* from the episode *Balance of Terror*...

"In this galaxy there's a mathematical probability of a million Earth type planets, and in all of the universe a hundred million galaxies like this, and in all that and perhaps more, only one of each of us... don't destroy the one named Kirk."

Raymond Thomas, Romford, Essex

You just can't keep a good man down... Thank you, Raymond, for those heart-warming words.

IN BRIEF...

We do appreciate all the fascinating theories from cat and fish lovers, just stop sending them in! However, we particularly liked Martin Buck of West Wickham, Kent's theory that Picard's pet fish, Livingston, cleverly beamed himself off the U.S.S. Enterprise NCC-1701-D *as it was hurtling to its destruction in* Star Trek Generations, *only to materialise in the aquarium in the lounge of* Guinan's *shadow in the Nexus. You never know...*

Thanks to Helen Knott, the grand prize winner of our **Star Trek *Exhibition*** *competition, for her lovely letter of thanks for her tour. "As for sitting in the Captain's chair," she enthused, "what can I say - life will never be the same again!" We're pleased you enjoyed it - getting the chance to sit in the captain's chair was a rare treat indeed...*

We're also still getting letters from people who have been ***teased about following*** **Star Trek**. *Although we supposedly live in a world of freedom of expression, there will always be people who are unable to accept this. After reading this issue, anyone who is unable to recognise the valuable influence that* Star Trek *has had on scientific development is obviously living on an entirely different planet...*

In ***Issue 13*** *we stated that the picture at the top right of page 6 was of Frank Gorshin. The picture should have been of Frank Gorshin, who played* Bele *in* Let That Be Your Last Battlefield, *but Lou Antonio, who played* Lokai, *must have wheedled his way into the limelight at the last minute...*

Finally, David Heath of Leigham, Plymouth, asked "When you include the birth date in profiles, why don't you include the year too?" Good question, David. It's down to a general request from the actors themselves. What are they, shy?

COMPETITION WINNERS

The following competitions ran in Issue 13

I AM SPOCK AUDIO BOOKS

The answer to the question, in which episode of *Star Trek* did *Mr Spock*'s parents first appear, was *Journey to Babel*. The 10 lucky winners were: Rory Mackay, Longmorn, Moray, Scotland; Merlin Daly, Tavistock, Devon; S. Morrell, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts; S. J. Cowley, Thornton Heath, Surrey; L. Pepper, Cambridge; Paul Reynolds, Belfast, Northern Ireland; C. S. Fisher, Walsall, West Midlands; J. J. Ashworth, Heywood, Lancs; P. J. Curry, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire; and John Warnock, Newtownards, Co. Down, Northern Ireland. ■

DUFORT BADGES

To win one of 25 copies of the complete collector cards from *Dufort & Sons*, we asked you to tell us which recently promoted officer has to walk the plank in *Star Trek Generations*. The answer was of course *Lieutenant Commander Worf*, and the 25 winners of the competition were as follows:

Alison Shorts, Warminster, Wilts; David Buchanan, Denny, Stirlingshire, Scotland; Kevin D. Russell, Toothill, Swindon, Wilts; Michael Smith, Chilton, Co. Durham; Alastair Struthers, Aberdeen, Scotland; William Harnkness, Kilmarnock, Scotland; Mary E. Hayward, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, Wales; Ian Pritchard, Brentwood, Essex; Jonathan Leeson, Montgomery, Powys, Wales; William Jones, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, Scotland; Christopher Lugg, Porthleven, Cornwall; Cathel Mackenzie, Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, Scotland; Ian Payne, Rubes, Birmingham; George Showler, Swindon, Wilts; Andrew J. Shaw, Horninglow, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs; W. Downes-Hall, Cirencester, Glos; Christopher Dolbel, Greve Dazette, Jersey, CI; Kenneth Crighton, Arbroath, Angus, Scotland; Finbarr O'Neill, Middleton, Co. Cork, Eire; Colleen Keenan, Dundee, Scotland; Miss T. A. Steed, Shirley, West Midlands; Mrs L. Marsden, Keighley, West Yorks; Nancy Royster, Brechin, Angus, Scotland; Lee Kenneth Isaacs, Kendal, Cumbria; and Stephen Sparkes, Rugely, Staffs. ■

ROGUE SAUCER BOOKS

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of *Rogue Saucer*, the latest paperback by John Vornholt, as well as a copy of the audio version of *Spock's World*, you had to answer the following question: In which episode of *Star Trek* do we see Mr Spock use the non-existent Vulcan Death grip? The answer was *The Enterprise Incident*. The following people win copies of both *Rogue Saucer* and *Spock's World*: Jonathan, Leeson, Montgomery, Powys, Wales; Andrew Malcolm, Glasgow, Scotland; Amer Al Taf, Worcester Park, Surrey; Robert Martin, Bearsden, Glasgow, Scotland; Philip Riding, Forest Gate, London; Daniel Armstrong, Stanley, Co. Durham; Lee Hodgson, Withington, Manchester; J. Brown, St. George, Bristol; Thomas Douglas, Newten Mearns, Glasgow; and Miss K. Gradwell, Middleton, Manchester. The following people win copies of *Rogue Saucer*: Miss L. A. Corbett, Lundwood, South Yorks; Mrs S. Simpkins, St. Leonards on Sea, East Sussex; Andrew Pippen, Pontypool, Gwent, Wales; Tina Hobbs, West Heath, Hants; and John Brooks, Eccles, Manchester. ■

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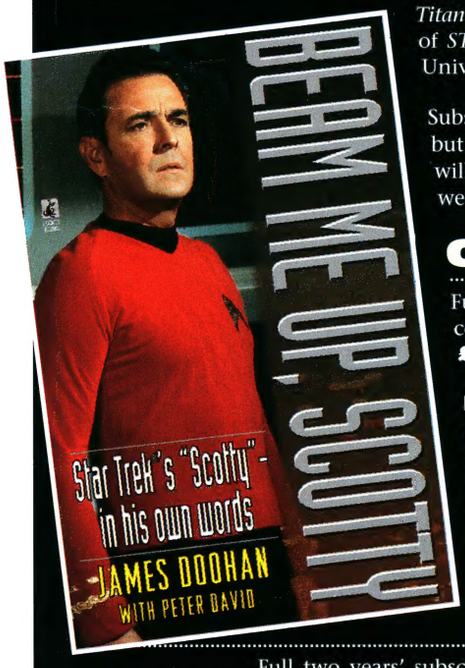

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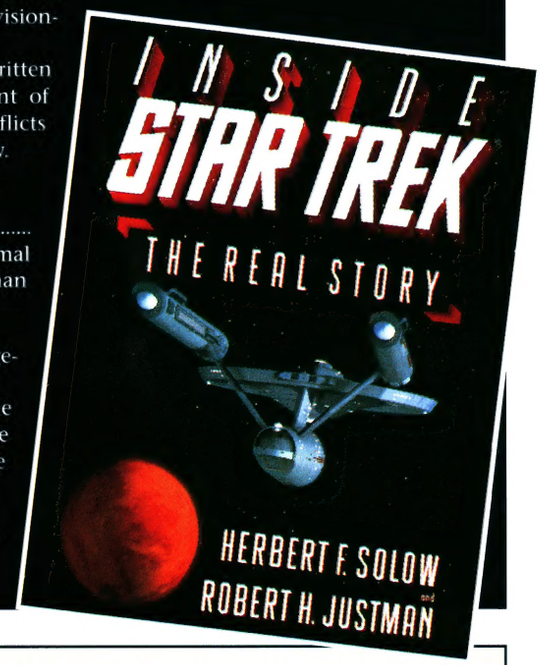

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